



Warm-Up Question:

Share some of your favorite parts of and traditions around Holy Week and Easter.

READ: John 20:1-18

I. RESURRECTION: THE REALITY

- ▶ When you read this story, what are some details they include that indicate this story is just being told as it happened, not as a made up story? (Ex. Women witnesses, folded grave clothes, etc)
- ▶ Point out all the witnesses of the resurrection. How did it affect them and what were they willing to suffer to attest to Jesus having raised from the dead? How does that give proof to the reality of the resurrection?

II. RESURRECTION: THE REDEEMED

- ▶ Read Luke 8:2. What does it say about Christianity that Mary Magdalene was one of the first to see Jesus resurrected and then announce it to his disciples (v. 18)?
- ▶ Read Rom. 1:19-20 and 2:15. How does creation and our conscience attest to our need for a Savior?
- ▶ Read 1 Cor. 15:17 and Ephesians 2:8-9 and discuss how the resurrection of Jesus says about our sin and how God now gives you his approval and love.

III. RESURRECTION: THE RENEWAL

- ▶ Read v. 16. Envision Jesus knowing all things about your past, present and future. Pause and imagine him looking at you now and calling your name with a sense of intimacy and love. How does that make you feel?
- ▶ Read 1 Cor. 15:40-44, 51-57. What are some of the implications that Jesus resurrected for you who believe? What most excites you personally about this reality?
- ▶ Jesus sends Mary out on mission to bring renewal hope to others. How do we have the same mission now?

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

...and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,
- Luke 24:46

And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise.” - Luke 18:33

...for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. - John 20:9

And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him.
- Mark 16:6

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
- 1Cor. 15:17

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.
- 1Cor. 15:20-22

EASTER: RESURRECTION!

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Scriptures Used

John 20:1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. **2** So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” **3** So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. **4** Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5** And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. **6** Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, **7** and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. **8** Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; **9** for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. **10** Then the disciples went back to their homes.

John 20:11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. **12** And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. **13** They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” **14** Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. **15** Jesus said to her, “**Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?**” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” **16** Jesus said to her, “**Mary.**” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). **17** Jesus said to her, “**Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’**” **18** Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

Luke 8:2 and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,

Rom. 1:19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. **20** For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

Rom. 2:15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

1Cor. 15:17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

Eph. 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **9** not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

1Cor. 15:40 There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. **41** There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

1Cor. 15:42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. **43** It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. **44** It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

1Cor. 15:51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, **52** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. **53** For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. **54** When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:
“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

55 “O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?”

1Cor. 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. **57** But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.