

## Community Group Discussion Questions

23 Oct 2022

John 20:1-18

Message/questions by John Brewer

In Chapter 19, John (The Apostle) tells the story of Jesus' death and burial. In Chapter 20, John tells his own story of the events of Jesus's resurrection. John focuses on Mary Magdalene as a central character. She is the first to realize the tomb is empty, the first to see Jesus after his resurrection, and the first to get to tell the gospel including the resurrection story.

Scripture references from the message: Gen 3:15 Exodus 23:19; Deuteronomy Ch 26; Psalm 16(ref); Matthew 12: 38-41; Luke 8:1-2; John 2: 18-22; John 11:21-25; John 20:31; Acts 2:27, Acts; 13:25; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians Ch 15; Philippians 3: 20-21; Colossians 3:1-4; 2 Tim 3:16-17; Hebrews 12:28-29

1. We see many "firsts" involving Mary here in this passage. Why is this remarkable and what does it tell us about the relationship between Jesus and Mary?
2. Is it important that John ran faster than Peter?
3. Jesus foretells his own resurrection (Matthew 12: 38-41 and John 2:18-22). Why is this important?
3. Why is it important that Jesus' resurrection was physical? (Reference 1 Corinthians 15:12-19).
4. Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and 1 Corinthians 15:20-23. What does it mean that Jesus is the "First Fruits?" Why did Jesus have to be fully God and fully man?
5. In what ways do we get to share in Jesus' resurrection now and in the future?

Reflection: Have you ever paused to be in awe of who God is and his rescue plan for us? In his sovereignty, the creator of the universe sent his Son to die for us. Jesus conquered death and allows us to participate in his resurrection. He will return to vanquish sin and death and reign forever. Though we are guilty sinners, for those of us who are living in submission to him, we get to share in his victory. This story is woven beautifully throughout scripture. Spend some time considering how great and powerful God is. Then, spend some time in song or prayer telling Him.

Here are lyrics to Holy, Holy, Holy if you want a good starting place (Next page/back).

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
Holy, holy, holy merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy; all the saints adore Thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy; though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity!,

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!