

EASTER WEEKEND 2026

Date: April 3-5, 2026

Verses: John 20:1-18



SERIES INSIGHT

As part of our word for the year series, *Transformed*, we conclude 12 weeks walking through Romans chapter 12. Our heart has been to rise up to the challenge of being transformed in every sphere of our lives. As we remember the heart of Easter and survey the Cross of Christ this weekend, our hope and prayer is that we would become more fully devoted, fully alive in Christ!

ICEBREAKER

- Did you grow up with a favorite Easter tradition (ex. family lunch/dinner, egg hunt, stations of the cross, family together)?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Review the Message.** Looking back at your notes and upon reflecting on this weekend's message, what was your one takeaway from Sunday?
2. Mary is overwhelmed with grief, even while standing near the miracle. What "grief," disappointment, or confusion might be blinding you to what God is doing right now? Where might you be looking for Jesus—but missing Him because of your expectations?
 - a. **Life Application:** Be honest about what you're carrying—but also ask: Is my pain keeping me from recognizing His presence?
3. Mary physically turns twice—once toward Jesus, then fully when He calls her name. What might you need to "turn" from (mindset, assumption, distraction) to truly encounter Jesus? Have you settled for partial awareness of God instead of a personal, transforming encounter?
 - a. **Life Application:** Resurrection often requires a **turn**—a shift in perspective, attention, or surrender.
4. Everything changes when Jesus speaks her name. When have you experienced Jesus becoming personal—not just theological? What practices help you recognize His voice in your everyday life?
 - a. **Life Application:** Jesus doesn't just reveal truth—He calls you personally. The resurrection is not just an event, it's an **encounter**.
5. Mary moves from grieving to going—she becomes the first witness of the resurrection. How has your encounter with Jesus changed what you talk about or who you reach out to? What's one step you can take this week to share what Jesus has done in your life?
 - a. **Life Application:** A real encounter with the risen Jesus always moves us **outward**—from silence to witness.

PRAYER

Share requests and celebrate praise reports. Take time for your group to pray for however long is needed.



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