

**Sermon Title:** Believe!

**Sermon Series:** Overcoming Doubt & Anxiety

**Scripture:** John 20:1-9

**Speaker:** Pastor Mike Barnhart



### **John 20:1–9 ESV**

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. 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.” So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

*Because Jesus is alive, \_\_\_\_\_ !*

**Question #1:** Why are you \_\_\_\_\_?

### **John 20:2–4 ESV**

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.” So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

*When you don't understand what God's up to in your world, what do you do?*

*How do you respond?*

*Do you tend to assume the worst?*

Question #2: Where are you \_\_\_\_\_?

**John 20:5–8 ESV**

And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;

*Where are you looking for the answers to life's toughest questions?*

Question #3: What do you do with \_\_\_\_\_?

**John 20:8–9 ESV**

Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

**Matthew 17:22–23 ESV**

As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day." And they were greatly distressed.

*Doubt - a gap between what you think is true and what someone else says is true.*

**Two responses to doubt:**

A. Questioning - questions that try to understand and make sense of what doesn't.

B. Gap Stuffing - filling the 'doubt gap' with ideas/thoughts/concepts/theories that you already think you know & understand.

**Would you be willing to set aside or give up what you currently believe so that the Bible (God's Word) can define what's true?**

*Because Jesus is alive, believe!*