



## • Pastor Derrick Shields “Hope In The Resurrection: Renewed Hope” 4/17/2022

### Key Verses:

- John 20:11-18, Genesis 3:8-10, John 11:25

### Key Thoughts:

- Just before sunrise on the day of Jesus' resurrection, his followers had unrealized hope. We all have dealt with unrealized hope: whether that be our favorite team losing a big game or the refugees in Poland from Ukraine. Unrealized hope leaves us wondering, 'God where are you?'
- Hope is a confident expectation; the sure certainty that God will do what he promised.
- Some of us have experienced death, loss of relationships, heaviness, and with that comes the question of where God is in all the brokenness. But *hope can appear when we least expect it.*
- Mary Magdalene plays an important role in the life of Christ. She's one of five different women named Mary in the New Testament. She came from the village of Magdala, becoming a follower of Christ in his early ministry. In Luke 8:2, we see her and other women joining themselves to Jesus. But Mary had been healed from seven demons. So, we know this: Christ had set her free. When they hung Jesus on the cross, when they took him down, and when the stone was rolled away, Mary was there, having purchased spices to anoint his body.
- In John 20:14, it says that Mary saw Jesus, but she didn't recognize he was there. Even despite the fact that he'd told them he'd be raised, Mary was so disturbed by his death that she couldn't see him when he was right in front of her. But *hope comes at just the right time.*
- Next it says that she thinks Jesus is the gardener after he speaks to her. God appeared in the garden at the beginning of the story. It was a garden where God ministered to Adam and Eve. In Genesis 3, God comes down to meet them and call their name.
- *Hope in Jesus brings victory over sin and death.*
- Death did not have the last word: Jesus did. If Jesus can overcome death, there's nothing in our lives that he cannot defeat or overcome.
- In John 11:25, Jesus says that he is the resurrection and the life and he asks a question: Do you believe this?
- *Believe!*

### Discussion Questions:

1. How have you experienced unrealized hope in your life?
2. How can you begin to find the hope of Jesus in some areas of your life that you may not currently recognize it?
3. What does it mean for us today that Jesus is the resurrection and the life (John 11:25)?