

April 2021

## *Church Life*

- If you are a guest with us today, we want to **WELCOME** you! If you haven't done so already, we invite you to stop by our Guest Reception Center in the lobby following the service. Someone will greet you, answer any questions you may have, and give you a gift as a thank-you for worshipping with us today!
- **ATTENTION** All Israel Trip Participants: Due to COVID, we will postpone the trip scheduled for May of 2021. The new dates for the trip are November 9-19, 2021. We will continue to monitor the situation both here in the US and Israel as we move forward. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Bob at [bob@gracechapelzeeland.com](mailto:bob@gracechapelzeeland.com)
- Are you finding yourself in an **unexpected pregnancy** and feeling scared? Do you feel like you have no one you can turn to for help? Here at Grace Chapel, we have a team of people trained to talk with you, listen to you, and give you support and encouragement. We don't want you to feel alone as you think about being pregnant and can't think of anyone to talk to about it. We would love to have you connect with us! You can reach the **Life Team** by calling the church at 616-741-0032 and then press option 6, or you can email our team at [lifeteam@gracechapelzeeland.com](mailto:lifeteam@gracechapelzeeland.com). You will get a confidential response from a team member.
- Men, mark your calendars for **6:30 pm Tuesday evenings (every other Tuesday)** for a time of learning from God's word and sharing with other men at Grace. We will be using the RightNow Media study, "**Be a Godly Man**" by Joby Martin. Bring a friend if you like, and come to be encouraged, challenged, and inspired by how God is changing men's lives through Christ. Dates to save are **March 23, April 6, 20, May 4, 18, and June 1**. (It's ok if you can't attend every session - but even better if you can!) Contact Pastor John for more information [john@gracechapelzeeland.com](mailto:john@gracechapelzeeland.com)
- **Men, Women do you like to ride motorcycles?** If so, Grace has its very own Motorcycle Ministry starting on May 25 at 6:00 pm. There will be 4 rides planned and a stop for icecream! Please sign-up at the scooter table if you are interested. Contact Tom Tenharmself @ [ttenharmself@gmail.com](mailto:ttenharmself@gmail.com), 616-510-8859 or Jim Hill @ [jimhill0626@gmail.com](mailto:jimhill0626@gmail.com), 616-502-3070 for any questions.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Resurrection Witnesses

**Most important questions you will ever answer...**

**Do you believe Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_?**

**Do you submit your \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus as the only source of \_\_\_\_\_?**

**1<sup>st</sup> Eyewitness to Jesus Resurrection:** Mark 16:1-8, Matthew 28:1-8, Luke 24:1-8, John 20:1

**Mark 16:1-8,** When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body.

**What matters most to you in life? \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_?**

**Truth is not found in \_\_\_\_\_. Truth is found in the \_\_\_\_\_.**

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup> Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb <sup>3</sup> and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" <sup>4</sup> But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. <sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'" <sup>8</sup> Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

**John 20: 1-18,** Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. <sup>2</sup> So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" <sup>3</sup> So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, <sup>7</sup> as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. <sup>8</sup> Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. <sup>11</sup> Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying.

Luke 8:2, "and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out" As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb <sup>12</sup> and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. <sup>13</sup> They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." <sup>14</sup> At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

### **Life Application**

The first thing **everyone** was told to do after they heard Jesus was raised from the dead was to **GO** and **TELL** others.

This week your challenge is to talk to one person about Jesus' resurrection.



**April 11<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**1<sup>st</sup> Resurrection Eyewitnesses**

1. Christians base their faith on the belief Jesus physically and literally rose from the dead. Could you explain to someone why you believe this?
2. Could you answer these questions: Who were the people who saw Jesus alive again? How many people say they saw Jesus alive again? Over what kind of a period of time were these claims made? Were the claims made by his followers alone? Is there any evidence outside of the Bible? As Christians should we be able to answer?
3. Take a look at the list of Jesus' appearances. Believing Jesus physically rose from death on the third day is not just a matter of faith. Facts **STRONGLY** support this belief. DO you agree with this?

**KEY QUESTIONS: Most Important questions you will ever answer?**

**Do you believe Jesus rose from the dead?**

**Do you submit your life to Jesus as the only source of salvation?**

**READ: Mark 16:1-8, Matthew 28:1-8, Luke 24:1-8, John 20:1**

4. These are the 1<sup>st</sup> Eyewitnesses to Jesus' Resurrection
5. Why did they go to the tomb? Did they go to question if Jesus had died on the cross?
6. Did the Jewish leaders think Jesus was dead? Why was it so important to these leaders to make sure that a dead Jesus did not escape from the tomb?
7. It seems like power mattered to them more than truth. Do you think our culture still struggles with this? Power over truth?

**KEY QUESTION: What matters most to you in life? Truth or personal preference?**

8. What is truth in today's culture? So, what is truth? Where can we find truth?

**KEY POINT: Truth is not found in culture. Truth is found in the Bible.**

*A Quote from Pastor Adam... Mary Magdalene was bound by demons for a long time. Demons destroyed her life, caused havoc, controlled her emotions, and destroyed her spiritually. Mary was in a hopeless and helpless situation. Then Jesus came along and cast out these seven demons. Jesus delivered Mary from her bondage and set her free!*

*Mary was miraculously saved from a very dark future. She was redeemed, bought back from the bondage she was in, through a miraculous encounter with Jesus. It is no wonder why she was broken, thinking about what had happened to Jesus's body. She sees angels, no reaction, she sees Jesus, no reaction, Mary, has been through so much trauma recently that she is numb. Then... Jesus speaks her name... Mary! Can't you picture this? Those moments when you are broken in life. Then you have that moment when someone you love just says your name and it is like daylight breaking the darkness and you can see again, there is light at the end of the tunnel, hope suddenly floods in!*

9. Take the remainder of your time and talk about the quote above. Has this ever happened to you. A hug from someone, a word, your name spoken with love and compassion...

**Life Application**

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**This week your challenge is to talk to one person about Jesus' resurrection.**

