

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

“Who Are You Looking For?”

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
Easter Sunday - April 21, 2019



“Who are you looking for?”

John 20:1-18 (NLT) Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. ² She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, “They have taken the Lord’s body out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!” ³ Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. ⁴ They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn’t go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ while the cloth that had covered Jesus’ head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. ⁸ Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed— ⁹ for until then they still hadn’t understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then they went home.

¹¹ Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. ¹² She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. ¹³ “Dear woman, why are you crying?” the angels asked her. “Because they have taken away my Lord,” she replied, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” ¹⁴ She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn’t recognize him. ¹⁵ “Dear woman, why are you crying?” Jesus asked her. “Who are you looking for?” She thought he was the gardener. “Sir,” she said, “if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him.” ¹⁶ “Mary!” Jesus said. She turned to him and cried out, “Rabboni!” (which is Hebrew for “Teacher”). ¹⁷ “Don’t cling to me,” Jesus said, “for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, “I have seen the Lord!” Then she gave them his message.

Who was Mary Magdalene?

Luke 8:1-3 (NLT) Soon afterward Jesus began a tour of the nearby towns and villages, preaching and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom of God. He took his twelve disciples with him, ² along with some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases. Among them were Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons; ³ Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod’s business manager; Susanna; and many others who were contributing from their own resources to support Jesus and his disciples.

- **Our longings to belong, to have purpose, to be free, and to be loved are fulfilled perfectly in the Risen Christ. Why is this so?**

- **Because Jesus has risen we can belong to a forever family.**

v. 16 She turned to him and cried out, “Rabboni!” (which is Hebrew for “Teacher”). ¹⁷ “Don’t cling to me,” Jesus said, “for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

John 1:12 (NLT) But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children on God.

- **Because Jesus has risen we can have freedom from sin & death.**

Matthew 26:27-32 (NLT) And he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them and said, “Each of you drink from it, ²⁸ for this is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many...“Tonight all of you will desert me. For the Scriptures say, ‘God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ ³² But after I have been raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there.”

- **Because Jesus has risen we can have a bigger story.**

v. 18 Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, “I have seen the Lord!” Then she gave them his message.

- **Because Jesus has risen we can experience everlasting love.**

v. 15 “Dear woman, why are you crying?” Jesus asked her. “Who are you looking for?”

John 17:3 (NLT) “And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.”

Big Idea: Trust in the Risen Christ & experience the flourishing life He came to give you.

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today’s 10:10 service are from the New Living Translation (NLT).



IMPACT COMMUNITIES
real life. real impact.

**Sequoia Impact Communities are a place to
experience real life & real impact.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**“Who Are You Looking For?”
Easter Sunday — April 21, 2019**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you? What was your most significant takeaway?

3) Describe a time when you were looking for someone and you couldn't find them. What was this like for you?

4) Read John 20:1-18. What do you think was going through Mary Magdalene's mind on this Sunday morning? How are these thoughts connected to her journey with Jesus? Reference Luke 8:1-3.

5) Read John 1:12. What does it mean to belong as a child of God? What requirements does this verse indicate are necessary for this to be true? What are the implications for you today?

6) Read Matthew 26:27-32. What does Christ communicate about why He will die? How does Christ's death & resurrection set us free from sin & death?

7) What is the “bigger story” Jesus is inviting Mary into? What is the “bigger story” God is inviting you into and your IC? Share with your IC what God is laying on your heart in this regard?

8) How does Jesus communicate His love towards Mary? Read John 17:3. What does this passage reveal about eternal life? How is this connected to the resurrection story?

9) What are you hearing from God today in regard to all this? What action steps will you take?



IMPACT COMMUNITIES
real life. real impact.

**Sequoia Impact Communities are a place to
experience real life & real impact.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**“Who Are You Looking For?”
Easter Sunday — April 21, 2019**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you? What was your most significant takeaway?

3) Describe a time when you were looking for someone and you couldn't find them. What was this like for you?

4) Read John 20:1-18. What do you think was going through Mary Magdalene's mind on this Sunday morning? How are these thoughts connected to her journey with Jesus? Reference Luke 8:1-3.

5) Read John 1:12. What does it mean to belong as a child of God? What requirements does this verse indicate are necessary for this to be true? What are the implications for you today?

6) Read Matthew 26:27-32. What does Christ communicate about why He will die? How does Christ's death & resurrection set us free from sin & death?

7) What is the “bigger story” Jesus is inviting Mary into? What is the “bigger story” God is inviting you into and your IC? Share with your IC what God is laying on your heart in this regard?

8) How does Jesus communicate His love towards Mary? Read John 17:3. What does this passage reveal about eternal life? How is this connected to the resurrection story?

9) What are you hearing from God today in regard to all this? What action steps will you take?