



# THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOPE

JOHN 20:1-18, 24-29



# THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOPE

- John wrote his gospel:

“so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31)

“He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.”  
(John 1:10)

# THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOPE

1. Hope lost
2. Hope found
3. Hope transformed

## I. HOPE LOST

- Why is Mary so disconsolate?
  - Luke 8:2 “And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out.”
  - Jesus had rescued her out of a desperate condition, but now he’s gone. Her hope is lost

## I. HOPE LOST

- Why did Mary (and the disciples) not believe Jesus would be raised up on the third day?
  - Because of their worldview about the resurrection
  - They interpreted Jesus' words metaphorically

## I. HOPE LOST

- What about us? Why believe the gospel accounts are true?
  - One reason: *the content is far to counterproductive to be made up*
  - If you are interested in answers to these and other questions I strongly recommend the book *The Reason for God* by Timothy Keller

## 2. HOPE FOUND

### ■ John 20:11-16

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”

## 2. HOPE FOUND

### ■ John 20:11-16

Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).



## 2. HOPE FOUND

- Two questions:
  - Why are you weeping?
  - Who are you seeking?
    - Seeking a Jesus that doesn't exist
    - You don't find Him, He finds you

### 3. HOPE TRANSFORMED

- John 20:17-18

Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

### 3. HOPE TRANSFORMED

- Jesus wants to give her a hope better than she knew
  - Jesus has found her, her hope has returned
  - Yet she is not to experience that hope in the same limited way she had done before

### 3. HOPE TRANSFORMED

- Two ways her hope is transformed:
  - Hope with a purpose: “*go and tell*”
  - Hope that can’t be taken away

## THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOPE

- Mary had this amazing personal encounter with the risen Christ, what about us?
- John 20:24-29. Thomas the disciple who wanted evidence.
- He gets his evidence. But what about us?

## THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOPE

- Jesus says: *“Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”*
- When Jesus appeared no one recognized Him until he revealed himself – made himself known.
- You don’t get to reach out and put your fingers on his wounds, but he reaches out to you to place his hands on your wounds and heal you.