



RESURRECTION HOPE

A MESSAGE FOR EASTER 2020

Resurrection Hope - John 20:11-18

April 12, 2020

For personal reflection/community discussion

Read – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

Examine – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

Apply - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- In the message, Lewis quotes James Corden:

“This has been a welcomed break, from what has been quite a scary couple of weeks. I’ve found it tougher than I ever thought I would. I found myself having these incredible spikes of anxiety and sadness when I’ve allowed myself to think about my family back home in England or my friends or the people I love. You feel so out of control in it all. It feels so beyond our comprehension that I’ve found that I’ve been overwhelmed with sadness.”

Can you empathise with his words? How might Jesus respond toward you in your fears?

Consider Psalm 103: 14 and Psalm 56: 8.

- Resurrection isn't the end of the story. Forty days later, Jesus ascended to his Father (v.17). 10 days after that, he sent his Spirit. How might this change our understanding and experience of social isolation?
- In his book, *The Saints' Everlasting Rest*, Puritan Richard Baxter comments that he made it his duty to meditate upon eternal life for at least 30 minutes every day. Practices like these aren't common today, but what differences might doing something similar make for you? If the Resurrection means 'Paradise Restored', what are you most delighted to imagine? Stop and share your joy with others and the Lord.