



Message Series Guide

Cleansed: Easter Sunday

Week 3 – Cleansed by the Blood

John 20:1-10, John 11:25-26, 1 John 1:7



Blood is mentioned 460 times in the Bible. It was by the shedding of Jesus' blood on the cross that He paid the penalty for our sin and redemption. By defeating the grave, Jesus declared our salvation and victory in Him. When the enemy says we are crushed, the empty tomb reminds us that we are cleansed. Because of the empty tomb, we are clothed in the righteousness of Christ. We are made white as snow...just as though we had never committed a single sin. Yet it cost the blood of God's perfect Son on the cross.

"There is a fountain filled with blood; Drawn from Immanuel's veins; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains." – Hymn: There is a Fountain

READ:

John 20:1-10, John 11:25-26, Luke 24:5-6; 1 John 1:7

- What day of the week did Mary go back to the tomb where Jesus' body was placed? Why did Mary and the others wait until the Sabbath to visit the tomb (Read Luke 24:1; Mark 16:2; & Matt. 28:1).
- What does Mary notice about the tomb when she arrives early that first morning? What is significant about what has happened to the stone that sealed the tomb?
- How does Mary react to seeing the tomb? Who does she immediately find to tell about the tomb?
- Does Mary suspect that Jesus has been resurrected at this point? What is her and Peter's logical conclusion about what has happened? What does the other disciple (John) believe?
- What is unusual about the linen cloths that are found inside the tomb? What is significant about the face cloth and where it is found?

DISCUSS:

- Discuss ways you have coped with the pandemic, isolation, social distancing, etc.? Discuss how you have been tempted to give into fear, dread or worry during this time?
- How has your faith in Jesus and what it means to follow Him impacted how you view the current global pandemic?
- After the resurrection of Jesus, how did the disciples change from being fearful, to being bold? How do you think you will be changed once we get back to normal life?
- How do you view death? How does the empty tomb affect your view of death? How does it affect your fear and worry?

PRAY:

This week pray for God to fill you with His strength and power so you can change worry into worship knowing that Christ overcame death, sin and the grave.

RESPOND:

This week choose to be like Mary and tell others about the empty tomb, and what it reveals about our hope and cleansing in Christ.