



Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024 – John 20:1-18

Easter's promise: If Jesus dies, He bears much fruit!

John 20:1–10 (ESV) Easter Morning...

¹Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself.

⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They 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.” ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

¹⁵Jesus 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.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus 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.’” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

John 12:24

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it (Jesus) dies, it (He) bears much fruit!

1. Bearing much fruit:

Jesus is alive and brings us to the Father!

> He’s first of many brethren, and brings us to God!

(1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6; Romans 8:29; Colossians 1:18; Rev. 1:5)

2. Bearing much fruit:

fearful people like Peter become courageous!

> new spiritual life (raised for our justification)

(Luke 22:60-62; Acts 2:14f; 4:19-20)

3. Bearing much fruit:

presumptuous people like John loves others!

> Son of Thunder! Mark 3:17; 9:50-58; 10:35-37

> Becomes: “love one another!”

(John 3:16; 13:34-35; 15:17; 1 John all through the 5 chapters!)

4. Bearing much fruit:

demonic people like Mary Magdalene love Christ so much!

(Luke 7:44–48)

Application questions on the back →

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SUNDAY after church...

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give!
2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

MONDAY

READ: See the John 20:1-18. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** How does the resurrection of Christ bring about change in our lives?

PRAY: Pray over your applications.

TUESDAY

READ: John 20:1-18. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Working backwards from Acts 2:14, how did the resurrection of Jesus change Peter from fearful to courageous? **PRAY:** Pray over your applications.

WEDNESDAY

READ: See John 20:1-18 and Mark 10:29-30. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** How did the resurrection of Christ change John from being presumptuous to Jesus' direction on loving others? **PRAY:** Pray over these lessons!

THURSDAY

READ: John 20:1-31 and Mark 10:29-30. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Read Luke 7:44–48 and answer how Jesus' resurrection changed Mary Magdalene from her demon possession to loving Jesus so much. **PRAY:** Pray over your applications!

FRIDAY

READ: See 20:1-31. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Write out the one thing that struck you from our study.

PRAY: Pray over your application!

SATURDAY

Prepare your heart for Sunday's gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.

Pray – ask the Lord to show you people to encourage!

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; **Easter Promise...**