

**When the resurrected Jesus shows up, the way we see everything else radically changes.**

...they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to their homes. John 20:9-10

**Mary didn't go home.**

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. John 20:11

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." <sup>14</sup> ...she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> 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." John 13-15

- **Mary doesn't understand.** (verse 9)
- **Mary doesn't find what she is looking for.** (verse 13)
- **Mary doesn't recognize Jesus.** (verse 14-15)

**The One who knows Mary like no one else... shows up and calls her by name.**

Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). John 20:16

**Because Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead, everything has changed.**

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.'" John 20:17

**One word from Jesus changes the lens for how you see everything.**

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her. John 20:18

**Let's Talk About It**

The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are not just historical events and facts that we celebrate – they become the very lens through which we see the world around us. God wants to upgrade the lens through which we see the world. When the resurrected Jesus shows up and calls us by name, it radically changes the way we see everything else. At the tomb, Mary is weeping because of what she cannot not understand, what she cannot find and what she cannot recognize. The very thing she was looking for, and the very thing she needed... was right there, and she didn't see him. But when she did, everything changed, and she became the first person to *go and tell others* about the resurrected Jesus.

John 20:1-18; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Peter 1:3

- Which part of the message impacted and challenged you?
- Read Luke 8:1-3. Have you had a personal encounter with Jesus that changed your life? Please share with your group.
- Read John 20:1-10. How does the empty tomb point to both evidence and faith? What do we learn from this passage about how we should seek Jesus, how quickly we respond, and what it looks like to believe?
- Read John 20:11-18. In what ways, do you feel God's presence in your life? Where might you be so focused on your pain, confusion, or expectations that you're missing what Jesus is doing? What are some of the subtle ways God reveals Himself to you?
- At first, Mary struggled to see who Jesus really was. How can you take a step to seek Jesus in a greater way? What changes do you need to make to experience God in a greater way?
- When Mary saw the resurrected Jesus, everything changed, and she became the first person to carry the message about the resurrection of Jesus. How has the grace of God motivated you to share this message with others? Who has God put on your heart to reach out to? What is one step you can take *go and tell them to come and see that Jesus saves?*

**Take a Step**

Ask Jesus to open your eyes to where He's at work—and be ready to respond and tell someone what He's done.

**Here's My Prayer**

Father, thank You for being near to me even when I can't see You or understand what You're doing. Please reveal Yourself to me in a greater way so I can serve You and honor You with my life. In Jesus' name, amen.