



House Church Study Questions Based on the SAC Sermon on April 17, 2022

Sermon: Easter Sunday
Text: John 20:10-18

Take some time to worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9f2FXxDVO6w> Living Hope

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fs760h4yI4> Up From the Grave He Arose

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker Question:

What is your favourite thing about the community you live in?

Read

John 20:10-18

Question #1: Think about Mary standing outside the tomb of Jesus. She is crying and heartbroken. To her Jesus is lost and so is hope. Can you think of a time in your life when you felt like Jesus was so far away and you struggled with hopelessness? Talk about how this affected you; your relationships; your life with Jesus.

Question 1B: When your heart feels far from Jesus it can be devastating. What do you think Jesus thinks and feels when this happens? (Read Matthew 9:36)

Question #2: While Mary was still standing outside the tomb two angels came and began to pry open Mary's perspective about what was going on. What did they say to her and what affect did this have on her?

Question 2B: Sometimes God is at work to open our eyes but we still can't yet see. Knowing this how should this affect us if we are in the midst of a struggle but can't yet see the power or promises of God manifest yet?

Question #3: Mary is still so distraught when she turns around in verse 14, sees Jesus, but doesn't recognize him.

How often do you think Jesus shows Himself to you in the midst of your struggle, but you don't recognize Him? (Pretty hard to know if you don't see Him!) But think about it: Do you think Jesus shows Himself to us more than we imagine? Can you think of different ways that Jesus 'shows Himself' to us?

Question #4: Then Jesus says Mary's name and everything changed! Why do you think Mary's eyes were opened when He said her name? Is there something profoundly important to take note of here?. .the importance of relationship that Jesus desires with His people?

Question #5: The effect of Jesus calling Mary by name is intense and profound. One minute she was lost in her grief and now hearing the Risen Lord say her name causes her to run to her friends and shout out. . . "I have seen the Lord!"

If you have accepted the Risen Lord as your Saviour then you too have 'seen the Lord. How has this affected your life?

Invitation and Mission for this week

This week keep your eyes fixed on Jesus by purposing to take a minimum of 30 minutes a day to read scripture and pray. Read Hebrews 12 and John 20 everyday and ask Jesus to show Himself to you.

Pray for each other

Question 3B: Think of this scene: Mary is in the presence of two angels and Jesus Himself, *and yet her hurt is more real to her than all this*. It captivates her mind, emotions and body. Think about how powerful our pain is and how it commands our attention. Do you see evidence in this passage that Jesus condemns her for this or not? Do you think Jesus condemns you for this or not? (Read Romans 8:1-2)

Question 4B: Read John 10:3. It says that Jesus calls you *by name*. How does this affect your perspective on your life struggles and your relationship with Jesus?

Question 5B: Which Mary are you right now, the one who is surrounded by Angels and Jesus but can only see your hurt, or the Mary that is running to her friends filled with joy?

Read Hebrews 12:1-2. This talks about two important things: 1. Sin that blinds us and 2. How seeing Jesus blesses us.

Talk about this in this in light of where you are at in your life right now.