

THE

RESURRECTION

story



LIFE
GROUPS

WEEK 3 • APR 5

NORTHSHORE'S COMPELLING STATEMENT

Hope changes everything.

ICE BREAKER

Have you ever been surprised when someone calls you by name? Please share an example.

BACKGROUND

“I have seen the Lord!” said Mary Magdalene (John 20:18). How brilliant and amazing a phrase to have said. To be the one to testify to our Lord risen and alive. It is here that Mary’s grief was turned to joy.

After Jesus’ death and burial, Mary Magdalene was the first to go and visit his tomb. It wasn’t until after Mary first noticed the tombstone was removed that she ran to Peter and another disciple to inform them of what she saw. Both disciples eventually went inside the tomb to see that Jesus was not there, but His strips of linen were. When Mary entered the tomb, it was not empty. She saw two angels who asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” And turns around to see a gardener that asks her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

The scene is in a garden where Mary has correctly identified Jesus as the gardener, who is bringing a new world, a new life, and a new creation into being. It was not until Jesus said her name, “Mary”, that she saw who Jesus truly was. Here, Mary declares the new life Jesus brings us because of his resurrection.

REVIEW

What was meaningful from the above context or the sermon from last Sunday?



KEY VERSES: John 20:1

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.

READ: John 20:1-18



HEAD LEVEL: *What does it say? These help us to examine what the Word tells us.*

1. Who sees the open and empty tomb?
2. What do they see?
3. How does Jesus reveal himself to Mary?



HEART LEVEL: *What does it mean? These questions help us shape our beliefs around the objective truth of God's word.*

1. How is this story about sadness and fear, about searching for hope, and about surprise and joy?
2. Mary finds that the stone has been removed, and she jumps to conclusions. How often do we jump to conclusions about God's actions in our lives?
3. In John 1:38, Jesus asks John the Baptist's disciples, "What are you looking for?" How is this similar to John 20:15 when Jesus asks Mary, "Whom are you looking for?"



HANDS LEVEL: *What does it mean to me? These questions help us commit to live out the truth in our everyday lives and commit to potential next steps.*

1. We see that Peter jumps ahead and enters the tomb to see it first. The other disciple delays entering the tomb. Which disciple would you be and why?
2. Just as Mary proclaims the joy of Jesus alive, what does it look like to share the joy of the Lord in our lives with others?



MEMORY VERSE: John 20:18

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

(Please remember that these requests are confidential and need to stay within the group.)