



Weekly Devotion

Weekly Devotion for May 6 ***He Knows My Name***

by Ray Wardlaw

Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher.)

– John 20:16

At this crisis moment in her life, Mary went to the tomb, but the tomb was empty. Her despair was vivid as she wandered in the garden so early in the morning. She thought the one standing there was the gardener, until he called, "Mary." This voice was from one she had heard before and was unmistakable. This was Mary's moment of renewed hope, and she had to go and tell the disciples what she had seen and heard.

Earlier in the book of John, when Jesus had wept with Mary and Martha, the crowd was certain that Jesus was too late because Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Martha expressed her grief when she said that if Jesus had arrived sooner, then Lazarus would not have died. Jesus went to the tomb and, after the stone had been removed, called, "Lazarus, come out!"

Now the scripture refers to names, and each one refers us back to a story: Rahab, Ruth, Gideon, Samson, Samuel, David, and so many others.

I have taken some time to reflect on times when I needed direction to keep going, and the Lord called my name in a manner that I knew was personal and certain. That certainty brought hope, comfort, and unmistakable joy.

Journaling:

Reflect on times that you have been devastated by the crisis of death in the expectations of life. Have you seen one who appears to be the "gardener," until you hear the distinct, recognizable voice calling your name?

Look up some of the names mentioned above from the scripture and see how their lives were changed when the Lord called them by name.

