

The Gospel of John: The Risen One (*John 20:1-8*)

The Empty Tomb (v. 1-10)

- On Sunday morning, three days after His death, Mary Magdalene goes to Jesus' tomb to finalize His burial
 - Mary Magdalene was a woman from whom Jesus had cast out seven demons (Mk 16:9; Lk 8:2)
- The stone blocking the entrance to the tomb is already rolled away
 - Mary doesn't enter, but runs to find Peter & the beloved disciple (John), thinking that the body had been moved or stolen
- Peter runs to the tomb, with John outpacing him
 - But John doesn't enter the tomb
- Peter enters, followed by John, and sees that the burial clothes are left in place
 - This evidence leads John to believe that Jesus is alive, even though he has not seen Him yet (v. 8)
- The disciples then return to where they are staying, leaving Mary alone at the tomb

He Lives! (v. 11-16)

- Mary is weeping, thinking Jesus' body has been taken
- Looking into the tomb, she sees two angels, one of whom asks why she is crying
 - It is evident that Mary does not understand what has happened yet
- She turns around and is met by a man whom she takes to be the gardener, who asks who she is looking for
 - Mary does not realize that it is Jesus until He says her name
 - She knows His voice (Jn 10:3b-4)

The Mission & the Message (v. 17-18)

- Jesus tells her:
 - Not to cling to Him, for He has not ascended back to His Father yet
 - Go and tell His disciples that He is alive and will ascend back to the Father
 - Mary Magdalene is the *first* to tell others the Good News that Jesus is alive!
- Jesus refers to the disciples here as brothers and declares that He has secured a place in God's family for all who believe in Him (v. 17b)

So What?

- Jesus is alive and has secured eternal life and a place in God's family for us all when we put our faith in Him
 - Have you put your life in His hands?
- Like Mary Magdalene, are we sharing the Good News of Jesus?

Meditation Verse: John 10:27-28

Next Week: John 20:19-29