



Resurrection

19th Confirmation Class Handout

John 20:1-25 1 Early in the morning on the first day of the week (Sunday), while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance. 2 She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, breathlessly panting, "They took the Master from the tomb. We don't know where they've put him."

3 Peter and the other disciple left immediately for the tomb. 4 They ran, neck and neck. The other disciple got to the tomb first, outrunning Peter. 5 Stooping to look in, he saw the pieces of linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. 6 Simon Peter arrived after him, entered the tomb and observed the linen cloths lying there. 7 The kerchief used to cover Jesus' head was not lying with the linen cloths but was separate, neatly folded by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, the one who had gotten there first, went into the tomb, took one look at the evidence, and believed. 9 No one yet knew from the Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. 10 The disciples then went back home.

11 But Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. As she wept, she knelt to look into the tomb 12 and saw two angels sitting there, dressed in white, one at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus' body had been laid. 13 They said to her, "Woman, why do you weep?" 14 After she saw this, she turned away and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn't recognize him. 15 Jesus spoke to her, "Woman, why do you weep? Who are you looking for?" She, thinking that he was the gardener, said, "Mister, if you took him, tell me where you put him so I can care for him." 16 Jesus said, "Mary." Turning to face him, she said in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" meaning "Teacher!" 17 Jesus said, "Don't cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go to my brothers and tell them, 'I ascend to my Father and your Father, my God and your God.'" 18 Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples: "I saw the Master!" And she told them everything he said to her.

19 Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." 20 Then he showed them his hands and side. 21 Jesus repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you." 22 Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. 23 "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?" 24 But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples told him, "We saw the Master." But he said, "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it."

NOTES

- Mary is the first witness, both to the empty tomb and to seeing Jesus. If you're making this story up, the last thing you would do is use a woman as your first witness. Why? Because 1st Century Jewish culture did not consider a woman to be a legal witness.
- Due to knowing and recognizing, at least at moments, who Jesus was allows the disciples to be able to know and recognize Jesus in the present, the Resurrected Jesus.
 - The crowd and Pharisees do not get to see the Resurrected Jesus. They miss out due to their unwillingness to get to know Jesus when he was available.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

What doubts, like Thomas, do you have about God? About Jesus? About the stories we've read and studied?