

Group/Individual Study
Easter - He is Risen!!!
Passages: John 20:1-18

REFLECT on the message heard Easter Sunday, 4/1

1. As you read this passage, what pops out to you? Do you see anything that you'd not noticed before? What emotions arise for you?
2. Resurrection was the one thing no one was expecting: not the Romans, not the Jewish religious leaders, and not Jesus' followers. The Romans and the Jewish leaders are understandable. Why do you think his followers didn't see this coming even though Jesus had taught about it during his life? What do you think had been going through his followers' minds since Friday?
3. Why do you think Mary went to the tomb that morning? Why do you think that Jesus' female followers were at the cross and at the tomb while the men were mostly behind locked doors for fear of the Jews?
4. Mary didn't initially recognize Jesus when she saw him. What do you imagine happened for her when she heard Him say, "Mary"? What do you see in her response of unabashed love when she recognizes Him?
5. The transformation that happens in Jesus' disciples after the resurrection and after Pentecost is night and day. They go from being scared behind locked doors, hopeless, and denying they even know Him - to courageous witnesses to His resurrection who can only be silenced by death. How do you account for this change?
6. Where in your life do you most need the resurrection power of Jesus? Is there any place where you've grown hopeless (like the disciples from Friday till early Sunday)? What would it look like for you to offer that area back to Jesus and his holy power to give life to dead things?