

Love Demonstrated and Built up in Joy

John 20: 1 – 2, 11 – 18

9 May 2021

Series: From Resurrection to Pentecost

John 20: 1 – 2, 11 – 12

¹ Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone *already* taken away from the tomb. ² So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” ¹¹ But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying.

John 20: 13 - 15

¹³ And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing *there*, and did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, “Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.”

John 20: 16 - 18

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (which means, Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.’ ” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and *that* He had said these things to her.

Great Love Demonstrated during Great loss. Vv. 1 – 2, 11 -15

- Mary Magdalene was the first to arrive at the tomb.
 - She left immediately to report to Peter and John.
 - Mary believed grave robbers had struck.
- Mary returns grieving, but is not alone.
 - She now looks into tomb and sees angels.
 - Then Jesus appears, but she does not recognize Him.
 - Mary wanted to ensure a proper burial of her dead Lord, even offering to retrieve the body herself to do so.

Jesus Knows Your Name. Vv. 16 – 18.

- Jesus replies by simply calling her by name.
 - Instantly Mary knew it was Jesus.
 - A gardener would not have known her name.
 - Jesus knows Your name and calls you by name.
- Jesus sends her on mission, the first one sent.
 - Stop clinging refers to a new relationship with Jesus.
 - For the first time the disciples are called brethren.
 - We are identified as in the family of God.
 - God is our Father, because Jesus is our Brother.
 - Mary reports to the disciples, but they don't believe her.

Conclusion

- Jesus has resurrected from the dead just like He said He would, and appeared first to one who loved Him greatly.
- Jesus calls each of us by name to recognize Him as Savior and Lord and enter into His family.
- If we choose to believe in Jesus we are saved and enter into the family of God, and are considered brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Notable firsts: Jesus first appears to Mary who loved Him greatly, and for the first time calls believers brothers.