



Believe

JOHN

MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Resurrection Changes Relationships

Bible Reading: John 20:11-18

11 But Mary stood outside the tomb, crying. As she was crying, she stooped to look into the tomb. 12 She saw two angels in white sitting where Jesus's body had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"Because they've taken away my Lord," she told them, "and I don't know where they've put him."

14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Jesus. 15

"Woman," Jesus said to her, "why are you crying? Who is it that you're seeking?"

Supposing he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you've carried him away, tell me where you've put him, and I will take him away."

16 Jesus said to her, "Mary."

Turning around, she said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!"—which means "Teacher."

17 "Don't cling to me," Jesus told her, "since I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them what he had said to her.

I. Jesus' Resurrection Changed Mary's Relationships

A. From being a devoted follower

B. From her typical grief

1. Grief is like being in a fog
2. Making assumptions about Jesus' body – she was a rational grieving person
3. Not expecting Jesus to be resurrected
4. Not immediately recognizing the resurrected Jesus

C. Called by Jesus and recognizing him

1. Recognizing Jesus
2. Becoming the first Christian

D. From clinging to Jesus to relating to Him in a new way

17 “Don’t cling to me,” Jesus told her, “since I have not yet ascended to the Father. ...

1. Jesus helps her to see she cannot hold on to him

2. He will soon ascend to the Father

3. The beginning of a new relationship

4. 2 Cor. 5:16 ... Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

E. From being a follower to being sent

1. Being sent to give a message to Jesus’ disciples

2. Not a prominent pillar of the community or in the church

II. The message – a new relationship through the resurrection of Jesus

20:17 ...But go to my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”

A. The disciples are called “my brothers” – a new family

B. God is the Father of Jesus and also their Father

1. The first time God is called “your Father.”

2. “My Father and your Father”

C. Through Jesus’ resurrection we are born as children of God

III. Mary has a prominent role in the beginning of the church

A. The first to discover the empty tomb – 20:1

B. The first eye-witness of the resurrection – John 20:16; Matt. 28:1, 9-10; Mark 16:9-11

C. The first to convey the revelation of a new relationship

D. Her prominence has implications for women’s roles in the church