

Help Us See

Tears of Sorrow Can Become Tears of Joy

April 11, 2021 / Dan Solofra

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, **Mary Magdalene** went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ²So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

³So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹(They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. **John 20:1-10, NIV**

Resurrection morning was filled with _____, disinformation, and _____ in Jesus.

¹¹Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹²and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. ¹³They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” **John 20:11-13, NIV**

Our pain and heartache can keep us from receiving any _____ in the _____. (Be careful of _____.)

¹⁴At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. ¹⁵He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” **John 20:14-15, NIV**

It is impossible to see clearly through _____. Sometimes we miss Jesus who is standing _____ of us.

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”). **John 20:16, NIV**

Jesus calls me by _____ to bring clarity to the confusion and comfort in the pain.

¹⁷Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her. **John 20:17-18, NIV**

¹³Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, NIV**

Jesus’ resurrection gives me _____ and _____ even when I cry tears of sorrow mixed with joy.

MEMORY VERSE

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”). **John 20:16, NIV**

My next step: Jesus holds the power of life and death. I will remember his resurrection even at times when I mourn the death and loss of others.

What’s your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

Impact Groups

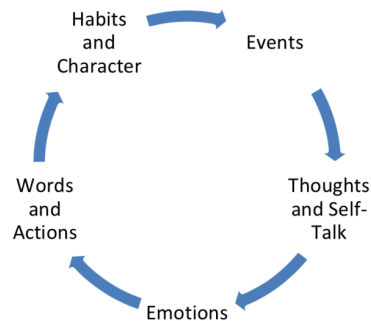
Help Us See:

That Tears of Sorrow Can Become Tears of Joy

Getting Started: What is a favorite memory that you have from this semester of Groups?

Going back to Sunday

What truth from Sunday's message was most impactful for you?



What is some of the self-talk of grief that can make our emotions so strong after the loss of a loved one?

Read Matthew 20:1-10 as you read it, look a little more closely and highlight something that you have missed before or caught your attention this time. Share your discovery with your group!

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What are words of comfort that you share with people at a funeral – consider the difference if the person is a Christian or not. (Consider the words of 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, NIV)

My Next Step

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). **John 20:16, NIV.** How can a person develop a close personal relationship with Jesus that can support them even in the most difficult times of life? What has worked for you?

Doing Life Together

¹⁸Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her. **John 20:17-18, NIV**

Explain. Every Sunday when the church gets together it is really just another celebration of the resurrection.

Prayer

Pray together as a group for about 10 minutes. Many groups do this in a circle format, allowing each person in the circle to pray or pass as they wish until all have had a chance to pray.

Reminders

Make plans with your group for the summer months. Even if you can't meet every week, make plans to have some fun events!

Download the church center app today to stay up to date on the latest events at CrossWalk, fill out a communication card or give an offering.

The first phases of our "Imagine" building program are starting. By December of this year we will be spending over \$500,000 on sewer and road work for the property. You can give an offering toward the project on the church center app.