

The Life Challenge

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Glorify His Name

Title: From Tragedy to Triumph

Speaker: Michael Dick

Date: April 9, 2023



WARM - UP

In what ways does the season of spring remind us of the possibility of resurrection?

How has the reality of Jesus' resurrection encouraged you when you faced the death of a loved one?

DISCUSSION

1. What emotional shifts are Mary and Peter and John likely experiencing as they encounter the empty tomb? Mary runs to get Peter and John, but they leave and she ends up crying. Why? What is it that John believes after seeing the empty tomb? Why do Peter and John simply return home?

2. What does Mary experience as a result of her continuing to linger at the empty tomb? What is the significance of Jesus speaking her name? Have you ever experienced Jesus speaking your name in a time of grief or trouble?

3. What term does Jesus use for the disciples? What is the significance of the term change? (See John 15:15). It's interesting to note that Jesus sends Mary to the disciples. Did he know the testimony of Peter and John would not be sufficient for them to believe?

DISCUSSION

4. Why do you think the disciples were in hiding? What does it tell you about Peter and John's experience of seeing the empty tomb and their witness?
5. Have you ever experienced the presence of Jesus at a point of fear?
6. What does Thomas' doubt say about the witness of the other disciples following their encounter with the risen Jesus?
7. What reassurance does Thomas need? What kind of assurance do you need at times to fully believe in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection?
8. Of all the things Jesus will have said to the disciples in his appearances to them John records "peace be with you" three times (vs. 19, 21, 26). How does this word relate to their fears? They're being sent?

APPLICATION

What do you rely on for evidence that Jesus rose from the dead?

Like the disciples we have received the Holy Spirit and are sent by Jesus to witness. What is required for your witness to be authentic?