

## Despair into Hope

John 20:1-22

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### I. The empty tomb. John 20:1-10

The empty tomb is the most powerful symbol of \_\_\_\_\_, new life, and the victory over death.

- Mary Magdalene had been delivered from bondage and sin, so the empty tomb became a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_ for her.

John described himself as the one whom Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

- Peter, the \_\_\_\_\_ Disciple.

### II. Jesus' first words after the Resurrection. John 20:11-18

1. "Woman, why are you \_\_\_\_\_?"
2. "Whom are you seeking?"

Within that question, there is an unspoken question: *Who or What are you trying to find \_\_\_\_\_ from?* John 10:10

3. "Mary".

Jesus called Mary by name. He knows each of His children \_\_\_\_\_.

### 4. "Go to My brethren".

- The message: sin had been \_\_\_\_\_ for at the Cross.
- The message: we have \_\_\_\_\_ for life beyond the grave.
- The message: there will be a \_\_\_\_\_ for us someday.
- The message: a great \_\_\_\_\_ day will happen with those who have gone before us in the faith.

### III. Comfort for His followers. John 20:19-22

- We receive peace \_\_\_\_\_ God. Romans 5:1
- We receive the peace \_\_\_\_\_ God. Philippians 4:6-7, Isaiah 26:3

### IV. His promises are available to us.

Before Jesus yielded up His Spirit on the Cross He said, "*It is \_\_\_\_\_!*" John 19:30

- Easter Sunday reminds us of new life, and we can have the hope of new \_\_\_\_\_.

We can be fully spiritually healed in this life and have a complete and perfect healing in eternity by trusting in what He accomplished on Calvary's \_\_\_\_\_. 2 Corinthians 5:21

- The word for "*hope*" is the Greek word *elpis*, which means a joyful and confident \_\_\_\_\_ of eternal salvation. Titus 2:13

## Small Group Discussion

*Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

1. Read **John 20:1-4**. *Were the followers expecting Jesus to rise from the dead? Why didn't they recognize the signs and prophecies? How can our preconceived ideas and emotions hide reality from us at times?*  
**Isaiah 53:12, Zechariah 12:10, Jude 20-21, Psalm 16:10, Jeremiah 17:9-10, Romans 1:18-20**
2. Read **John 20:5-10**. *Is the idiom true, "Seeing is believing"? How can the idiom of "Seeing is believing" become contrary to faith? Why is it important to take the LORD at His Word even at times when we cannot see the proof?*  
**Hebrews 1:1-6, Luke 1:37, John 10:10, Psalm 37:4-5, Proverbs 3:5-6, Romans 10:17, Psalm 34:18**
3. Read **John 20:11-15**. *Why was Mary Magdalene the first person Jesus appeared to after His resurrection? How can sorrow and unbelief affect our perception of reality? (vss. 13, 15) Who was Mary Magdalene before she was forgiven?*  
**Proverbs 8:17, Luke 8:1-2, Psalm 139:23-24, 1 John 4:19**
4. Read **John 20:16-18**. *When did Mary realize the person speaking to her was Jesus? How can we learn to discern the voice of God?*  
**John 10:11-16, John 10:27, Revelation 2:17, Isaiah 52:12, Jeremiah 33:3, Psalm 85:8, Exodus 33:11**
5. Jesus told Mary that He was going to His Father and her Father, to His God and her God. *What gives a person the right to call the LORD their Father and God?*  
**John 1:11-13, Romans 10:9-13, John 3:16, 2 Corinthians 6:18, Galatians 4:4-6**
6. Discuss the four points in section IV of the sermon note sheet.