

# SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

John 20:1-31

## DISCUSSION 1: Jesus and Mary

1. Describe what Mary was likely feeling in verse 11. What were some of the reasons she was weeping?
2. What do you think Mary felt or experienced when Jesus spoke her name and she realized who it was?
3. Can you share a time you were suffering, grieving, burdened, or broken and you experienced the presence or peace of God?

## DISCUSSION 2: Jesus and the disciples

1. Why are Jesus' disciples hiding? What do you think they're thinking, feeling, and experiencing at this time?
2. How does Jesus offer peace to the fearful, both in this account and beyond it?
3. How might the disciples have been helped or found courage if they remembered many of the words of Jesus, both in predicting his death and resurrection as well as his promises to them?
4. What's something causing fear, stress, worry, or anxiety in life right now? What is the big fear behind it? What lies might you be believing and what truths or promises do you need to cling to and experience?

## DISCUSSION 3: Jesus and Thomas

1. Do you find Thomas relatable? Why or why not? Do you think his doubting makes sense or is surprising?
2. Why is it significant that Jesus provides a blessing to all who would later believe in Jesus apart from seeing him? Read 1 Peter 1:8-9. What encouragement might there be for us in these two passages?
3. How do the ways that Jesus treats Thomas, the disciples, and Mary in this chapter encourage you? What does it show you about how God sees you and the way he relates to you today?

## FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Why is the resurrection of Jesus important?
2. Why is it important to see how fearful, faithless, weak, and struggling the followers of Jesus are and then how them seeing Jesus changes them here and throughout the New Testament? How might that give us evidence to the resurrection?
3. Jesus is kind to his followers in their weakness in John 20. Where do you feel afraid, weak, or struggling? How does Jesus relate to us in these moments?