

EASTER SUNDAY – WEEK OF 4 APRIL 2021
THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE
SCRIPTURE: JOHN 20:1-18

Context:

On Easter Sunday (Resurrection Sunday), we remember and declare that Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! What meaning and significance do we give to Christ's resurrection? Whether we are facing challenging circumstances because of the pandemic, loss of our routines, financial stability, loss of the way things used to be, perhaps loss of a loved one, or dark and despairing circumstances, Christ's resurrection brings us hope that in Him is the victory over death and power to give life, here, now and forever more.

Read John 20:1-18

Core Questions for Discussion

1. Read John 20:1-9 out loud. What do you think is going through the minds of the disciples at this time:
 - a. Mary
 - b. Peter
 - c. John
 - d. Which of these might you associate with right now?

2. The significance of Easter is the resurrection of Jesus. As Christians, we need to believe that Jesus has been resurrected and is risen. Do you believe that Jesus was resurrected from the dead? Why do you believe this?

"To preach Christianity meant (to the Apostles) primarily to preach the Resurrection. ... The Resurrection is the central theme in every Christian sermon reported in the Acts. The Resurrection, and its consequences, were the 'gospel' or good news which the Christians brought."

(C.S. Lewis, *Miracles*, ch. 16)

3. What does Resurrection Sunday mean to you?
(John 20:10-17)

"Weep" at verse 11:

Greek: *klaiō*

Strong's definition: Of uncertain affinity; to sob, that is, wail aloud

Strong's G6299

<https://studybible.info/strongs/G2799>

4. Would you be willing to share with one person the meaning of Easter and the good news that Christ is risen? Try sharing this Easter story (John 20:1-17) in your own words?

Prayer Suggestions

5. Would you consider praying for:
- a. An open door, an opportunity to share the Easter story with one person. Would you ask God to reveal whom that person might be? Would you pray for that person by name and make an appointment to meet with that person this week.
 - b. Good soil in that person to receive the good news and hope of the risen Christ.