Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Adult Curriculum

Christ Resurrected

Lesson 22

John 20:10-31

Opener

Ask: Have you been through a difficult time in your life that was the worst you ever thought it could be?

Scripture

Read John 20:10-15

Ask: Why was Mary crying?

She has lost the person who changed her life.

Mary, who stood outside of the tomb crying, was the same person from Luke 8:2-3 where it says that she was possessed with seven demons. When Jesus entered her life, He changed it. Jesus healed her. When no one else could help her and when no one else cared about her, Jesus did. Because of what Jesus did for her, she gave Him her life. She accepted Him and followed Him. And now when she would like to care for her Savior...when she wants to respect His memory, she cannot find His body.

She spoke to Jesus without knowing that it was Him, thinking that He was the gardener.

Read John 20:19-23

Discussion

Why were the disciples afraid?

The disciples were the people that had followed and walked with Jesus for three years. They had seen Jesus died on the cross after being beaten. They were afraid because they thought that the same might happen to them.

This is the first time that the disciples have seen Jesus after His death. All the disciples abandoned him before he died. But Jesus, instead of getting angry with them because of their unfaithfulness, greeted them with peace. At that moment the disciples knew that they were weak. Peter, who offered to die with Jesus, denied Him. The other disciples disappeared when Jesus was arrested. And what they needed more than any other thing was peace.

Jesus always gives us what we need. We can trust in His goodness and mercy and love for us. Maybe the disciples didn't deserve Jesus speaking to them with kind words, but that is exactly what He did because He loved them so much. He loves us as well and gives us what we need, even in difficult momentes.

Read John 20:24-31

Ask: Do you sometimes feel like you are not important to God in comparison with all the other people God cares for?

When Jesus appeared to them in the previous verses, one of the disciples, Thomas, was not with them. He didn't see Him. And when the other ten disciples told him that Jesus was alive, he didn't believe them. He did not want to wait any longer. It would be simple for Jesus to think that since He had already appeard to the others that He did not need to appear to Thomas as well. But Jesus cares about every individual. Every person is special and important to Him.

On every occasion, people needed different things from Jesus. Mary needed to hear His voice, the disciples needed to see Him and receive His peace, and Thomas needed to touch Him. And each time, Jesus gave them what they needed to believe Jesus loved them.

Application

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What do you need from Jesus right now in your life?

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