

## **Jesus. My Now and Forever! Easter 2026**

4.05.26

### **What is the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ?**

*“...Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and He was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. 1 Cor. 15:3b-4*

*\*See also 1 John 4:19*

*Mark 16:9*

*After Jesus rose from the dead early on Sunday morning, the first person who saw Him was Mary Magdalene, the woman from whom He had cast out seven demons.*

**What can we learn from Mary Magdalene that can help us with our love for Jesus? And, living a life of faith for Him? What does this verses tell us about her and her relationship with Jesus?**

*\*See John 10:10; Romans 3:24-25*

*John 20:1-2*

*1 Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. 2 She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, “They have taken the Lord’s body out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put Him!”*

**What do you think the disciples thought of Mary’s news?**

*John 20:3-9*

*3 Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. 4 They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in. 6 Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, 7 while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. 8 Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed— 9 for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead.*

**What would have been your thought seeing Jesus' empty tomb that Resurrection Sunday morning?**

*John 20:11-13*

*11 Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. 12 She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. 13 "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her. "Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put Him."*

**Why was Mary so upset?**

*John 20:14-16*

*14 She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize Him. 15 "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?" She thought He was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken Him away, tell me where you have put Him, and I will go and get Him."*

16 *“Mary!”* Jesus said. She turned to Him and cried out, *“Rabboni!”* (which is Hebrew for *“Teacher”*).

**What caused Mary to understand that it was Jesus speaking to her?**

*John 10:27-28*

*27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*

**Why do you think Mary was the first person to witness Jesus after His resurrection?**

*Mark 16:9*

*After Jesus rose from the dead early on Sunday morning, **the first person who saw Him was Mary Magdalene**, the woman from whom He had cast out seven demons.*

*John 20:17-18*

*17 “Don’t cling to Me,”* Jesus said, *“for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find My brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, to My God and your God.’”* 18 *Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, “I have seen the Lord!” Then she gave them His message.*

**What special mission did Jesus give Mary Magdalene? How can this encourage us in our own faith journey with Jesus?**