

a view of the tomb

John 20:1-20, pp. 905-906

Key Question:

Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God?

Facts:

The Roman guards are gone.

The stone is rolled away.

The tomb is empty.

The linens are "wrapped together". Greek - enteteligmenon

Jesus' body is no where to be found.

Angels are where Jesus should be.

Mary:

Sees the empty tomb -- assumes Jesus' body has been stolen.

Mary panics and runs back to spread her fear to the disciples.

Mary reports the news through her fear and pain.

Mary's emotions keep her recognizing Jesus.

Jesus lovingly reintroduces himself to Mary.

John:

John runs to the tomb and passes Peter:

John takes a look into an empty tomb.

John examines the empty burial linens.

John views all the evidence and believes.

Peter: (*Luke 24:12, p. 882*)

Peter sees the empty tomb.

Peter sees the empty burial linens.

Peter can't quite make sense of it all.

Jesus:

Jesus cannot be bound by _____ or our _____.

Jesus meets us, even in our _____.

Jesus comes regardless of our _____ or _____.

Jesus will meet you, right where you are at.

LifeGroup Questions:

1. What are some of the key reasons why people struggle with the resurrection of Jesus from the dead?
2. Have you had all your doubts erased?

Read John 20:1-20

3. What do you recall about Mary Magdalene? Read Luke 8:1-2
4. Why do you think Mary thought Jesus' body was stolen? Mary had experienced supernatural deliverance. Don't you think it is odd that she is struggling with the supernatural now?
5. Can you recall a time when God gave you strength and faith – just to doubt Him within a few weeks or months?
6. What do you think it would have been like to see the “empty” burial clothes? What would be racing through your mind?
7. Have you taken a “closer look” at the empty tomb of Jesus? What is your response? If this truly is a supernatural miracle, what are the implications?
8. How can you/we show patience to others when they are filled with doubt, pain, or confusion?
9. How can you live in “the good news” of Jesus resurrection?
10. What are the implications of Jesus' resurrection to your own death?

Close: Praise God for revealing his power, love, patience, and glory.