

God of new life, we give you thanks that you sent your Son, Jesus, to show us what you have in mind for us: that we are people of your promise, your grace, and your new life. Help us to live into the new life you offer to all who trust in you. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Before we get to other Resurrection implications in future lessons, in this lesson, we’ll be looking at Jesus’ resurrection.

Day 1 Read John 20:1-2

1a. What time of the day did Mary Magdalene come to the tomb?

b. What do you think is the significance that John reports that it was still “dark?”

2a. What did Mary Magdalene discover when she came to the tomb?

b. What did she report to the other disciples as a result of her discovery? What does she believe has happened?

Day 2 Read John 20:1-9

3. What was the reaction of Simon Peter and the Beloved Disciple to Mary’s report?

4a. What did they discover in the tomb?

b. Why do you think John carefully recorded the fact that the linen strips and head cloth were still lying neatly in their places?

Day 3 Read John 20:10-18

5. Mary returned to the tomb alone. Describe the two encounters she had at the tomb?

6a. Mary did not recognize Jesus at first. What triggered Mary’s realization of who was speaking to her (v.16)?

b. What significance does Jesus’ word to Mary have for you? See John 10:3-5.

c. What does Mary Magdalene report to the disciples?

Day 4 Read John 20:19-23

7a. What does Jesus say two times to the disciples as he appears to them in the locked room?

b. Why do you think that these were the first words that Jesus spoke to them?

8. What is the significance to us and to the Church of Jesus action of breathing on the disciples and giving them the commission he gives them?

Day 5 Read John 20:24-28 (*Pastor Patrick's Sermon from 4/7/24 helps with these questions*)

9a. What traits of Thomas do you find revealed in John 11:16?

b. What do you find out about Thomas from John 14:5?

c. Thomas gets his unfavorable nickname, "Doubting Thomas," from the incident recorded in John 20:24-28. Who also viewed the risen Jesus with doubts?

d. On the basis of these three references and John 20:28, how would you describe Thomas?

Day 6 Read John 20:29-31

10. What does Jesus say to Thomas after Thomas' confession of Jesus as Lord?

11a. The purpose of the Gospel of John (which John states in verses 30-31) comes directly after Jesus' statement to Thomas. How do Jesus's statement and John's statement linked?

b. Given that you have not "seen" Jesus as Thomas and the disciples did, how did you come to believe?