

## Monday - Week Forty-six

### John - Lesson thirty-three: The Resurrection - 1 (20:1-31)

1. Mary Magdalene was one of the women who went to the tomb to finish the burial preparations for Jesus' body (Matthew 28:1). Mary had followed Jesus for some time. Luke 8:2 tells us that Jesus had thrown seven demons from her. When she ran back to Peter and John she said that she didn't know where Jesus' body was. How could everyone have forgotten about Jesus' words about His resurrection?

Obviously we do the same thing when we fall into doubt by worrying, etc. How can we guard against doubt before it hits?

2. Peter and John might have met the other women returning from the tomb. They would have told them about the angels. In any case, both disciples ran to the tomb. John (perhaps younger than Peter) arrived first and peered in. What proof of the resurrection did he see? (v 5)
3. Peter (that bold fisherman) ran right in. What further proof did he see? (v 6)
4. John and Peter reacted differently to what they had seen. What was Peter's reaction? (Luke 24:12)
5. John tells us that he believed when he went into the tomb. Was John bragging? (carefully read v 8-9)
6. Verse 9 tells us that Jesus had to rise from the dead. He had to rise because the Scripture said so. In other words, the Bible guaranteed Jesus' resurrection. Keeping that in mind, how can you use God's promises?

**Read:** Psalm 55; Proverbs 16.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, what a great day the first Easter must have been. As I study it in the next few days help me to catch some of the excitement the disciples and women must have felt. In Jesus' name; Amen.

## Tuesday - Week Forty-six

### John - Lesson thirty-four: The Resurrection - 2 (20:1-31)

1. Mary's grief was intense - she didn't even recognize the angels (v 12). Her grief cause her to center her attention on where Jesus' body had gone. She kept repeating that question (v 2, 13, 15). Give examples of grief causing you to focus on one thought or question.
2. Was the angels' mission a failure? Explain.
3. Jesus certainly saw the deep love Mary had for Him - even in death. With one (!) word Jesus chased Mary's sadness away. Mary didn't respond with questions (Lord, why didn't You appear sooner? When did You rise? Who else knows about this?) Why do all of our questions fade away when Jesus rescues us from something?
4. The King James Version translated verse 17 "Touch me not ...". Really Jesus said, "Stop holding on to me ..." Mary would have more opportunities to see Jesus before He returned to the Father. Now Jesus wanted Mary to spread the news of His resurrection. When are we tempted to hold onto Jesus instead of sharing the news?
5. The disciples had quite a day. Reports came flooding in from Mary, the other women, Peter and John, and the two disciples from Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). The climax of the day came when Jesus stopped over. Jesus came to them and said, *Peace be with you*. What could have Jesus said to the disciples? (think back to Friday)
6. Those hands, feet and side were still marred. Didn't Jesus have a glorified body?  
  
Can you apply that to your own life? Explain.

**Read:** Psalm 56; Proverbs 17.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, make every day Easter for me in my heart. Amen.

# Wednesday - Week Forty-six

## Catechism Review

Read Questions 342-346

1. God's Kingdom is His rule in our hearts. How, then, does God's kingdom come? (Through what?)

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2. During Jesus' ministry the disciples thought that Jesus' kingdom would be a visible one. They thought that He would somehow become an earthly king. Obviously this was all wrong; Jesus' kingdom is a spiritual one. How do many churches make the same mistake the disciples made?

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How do many people make the same mistake in their personal lives?

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3. This has been called the mission petition. Why?

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4. What tries to be king in your heart in place of God?

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5. What role does your pastor have in strengthening God's rule in your heart?

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**Read:** Psalm 57; Proverbs 18.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, come be King in my heart! Amen.

## Thursday - Week Forty-six

### John - Lesson thirty-five: The Resurrection - 3 (20:1-31)

1. Jesus came to send them out - to commission them (v 21). What awesome power did Jesus give this group of Christians (the Church)? (v 22)

How can people forgive sins? (Isn't God the only one who can forgive sins?)

Each one of us has been given this responsibility/right. In what specific ways can you use it?

2. What was Thomas' trouble? (v 25)
3. Jesus waited a whole week to appear again. How was Jesus compassionate to Thomas? (v 27)
4. Jesus is talking about us in verse 29. Just think, our faith depends on an empty tomb in a remote part of the world 2,000 years ago. Thanks to the Holy Spirit for working in our hearts! Faith is believing without seeing (Hebrews 11:1). Why does that make the Bible all the more important?
5. Verse 31 is the theme of the book. Why does it come at this place in the book?

**Read:** Psalm 58; Proverbs 19.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, remind me every day that I am living forever right now. When I have troubles remind me that they are temporary. Amen.

## Friday - Week Forty-six

### John - Lesson thirty-six: Epilogue (21:1-25)

1. John was a good historian - verses 1 and 2 give us the background for this last chapter of the book. Why are these details important for us?
2. Peter has left his fishing career to follow Jesus. Peter still loved to fish though. Sometimes Christians think that they should stay away from fishing, golfing, gardening, etc. because there are important things to do in God's kingdom. How would you respond?
3. The first word of verse 7 could be translated "therefore". In other words John know that it was Jesus because of what happened, not by looking at Jesus. When does the same thing happen to us?
4. Good old Peter - he was quick to jump into the water and quick to pull the nets in (v 11). John was more contemplative - he recognized Jesus first but stayed on the boat. Jesus calls into service many different people with many different personalities. Often He uses their personalities in the work He has for them to do. Can God use (or has God already used) your personality in His service? Explain.
5. Read verse 10 carefully and explain St. Augustine's statement: "When God crowns our merits, He crowns nothing else than His own gifts."
6. Verses 18 and 19 tell us that Jesus knew that Peter would suffer a martyr's death. How would that kind of death glorify God? (v 19)
7. Why do you think Peter asked his question in verse 21?

**Read:** Psalm 59; Proverbs 20.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for letting me study the book of John in the past weeks. Continue to use it to strengthen my faith. In Jesus' name; Amen.