

Appearances Sermon Series

Discussion Questions

Week 1 – April 19, 2009 (Mary) John 20:11-18

1. How would you feel if you were in Mary's shoes and you saw Jesus' tomb empty? Why?
2. Why do you think Mary didn't recognize Jesus?
3. During times of grief, do you think it's normal to not notice things that you might normally notice? Why or why not?
4. How would you feel if you were in Mary's shoes and realized you were talking to Jesus? Would you have reacted differently? Why or why not?
5. How should Mary's story change the way you look at the world today?

Week 2 – April 26, 2009 (Disciples) John 20:19-23

1. What is it about your relationship with Christ that causes you the most fear?
2. Do you think the disciples were wrong for being scared in this situation?
3. How do you define peace? How do you think Jesus would define peace?
4. How do Jesus' scars have the ability to bring us peace today?
5. Do you have scars in your life that originally brought you fear or pain, but today bring you peace?
6. What brings you peace today?

Week 3 – May 3, 2009 (Thomas) John 20:24-31

1. Who do you think is the luckiest person in the world? Why?
2. Do you think that Thomas was the luckiest person in the world? How do you feel about his doubt? If you were Thomas how would you reacted differently?
3. Why does it seem hard to obey what Jesus says when he makes the statement, "Do not disbelieve, but believe?"
4. Do you agree or disagree with the idea, "when faith doesn't understand, it seeks to understand, and when doubt doesn't understand it remains in doubt?" Why or why not?
5. What does this scene out of Thomas' Life (his doubt/then belief) lead you to do personally?

Week 4 – May 10, 2009 (Mothers Day) John 21:1-14

1. Define miraculous. Define mundane.
2. In this text, which of Jesus' actions do you think had the greatest impact on the disciples? Why do you feel that way?
3. Looking at the whole scope of Jesus' ministry as told in the New Testament, which had the most impact on the disciples -- the miraculous or the mundane?
4. Do you think people are more attracted to the miraculous or the mundane? Why? In your opinion, which has the greatest potential to impact someone's life?

Week 5 – May 17, 2009 (Conversation with Peter) John 21:15-23

1. Think back to the day you graduated from high school and the plans you had for your future. How similar is the reality of your life compared to what you had planned?
2. Why do you think Jesus kept repeating his question to Peter?
3. Who are the people in your life that you tend to be too concerned about in regards to their destinies?
4. At what point does your concern for others become sin?
5. Why is it that we want to know what our destinies are?
6. In what area do you currently find yourself being called to simply follow Christ?