



***Family preparation for congregational worship on April 16, 2017***

**Our Scripture-John 20:1-18 (ESV):** Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." <sup>3</sup> So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to their homes. <sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup> Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

**Discuss:**

1. Why did Mary go to the tomb?
2. Who tried to comfort Mary?
3. What happened when Mary realized that Jesus was talking to her?

**Prayer:** Praise God for victory in spiritual warfare as we use his armor. Praise God that He loves us and will never leave us. Ask God to search your heart and cleanse you from any sin the Holy Spirit brings to mind. Pray for our president and leaders. Pray for greater faithfulness with your time. Pray, for the ministry of the Gideon's bible distribution. Ask the Lord who He would have you invite to church this coming Sunday.

**Memorize: (April)** For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God." John 3:20-21 (ESV)

**Music:**

As you meditate and prepare your heart for worship this Sunday, sing this song to the Lord;

Lord I lift your name on high; Lord I love to sing Your Praises.  
I'm so glad You're in my life; I'm so glad You came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way; From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

"Lord, I Lift Your Name On High", The Celebration Hymnal, #107, Word Music/Integrity Music © 1997

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### John 20:1-18

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L A I D S A I D M  
T J F I R S T P A  
O P W S O T H E R  
M J W C L O F T Y  
B E E I I O A E W  
A S N P N P T R U  
W U T L E E H Y K  
A S C E N D E D N  
Y C L O T H R A O  
L Y I N G E L J W

ASCENDED	AWAY	CLOTH
DISCIPLE	FATHER	FIRST
JESUS	KNOW	LAID
LINEN	LYING	MARY
OTHER	PETER	SAID
STOOPED	TOMB	WENT