

Digging Deeper into John 20:1-10

Chat

- What's the best surprise you've ever received?
- Who did you tell about it afterwards?



Study

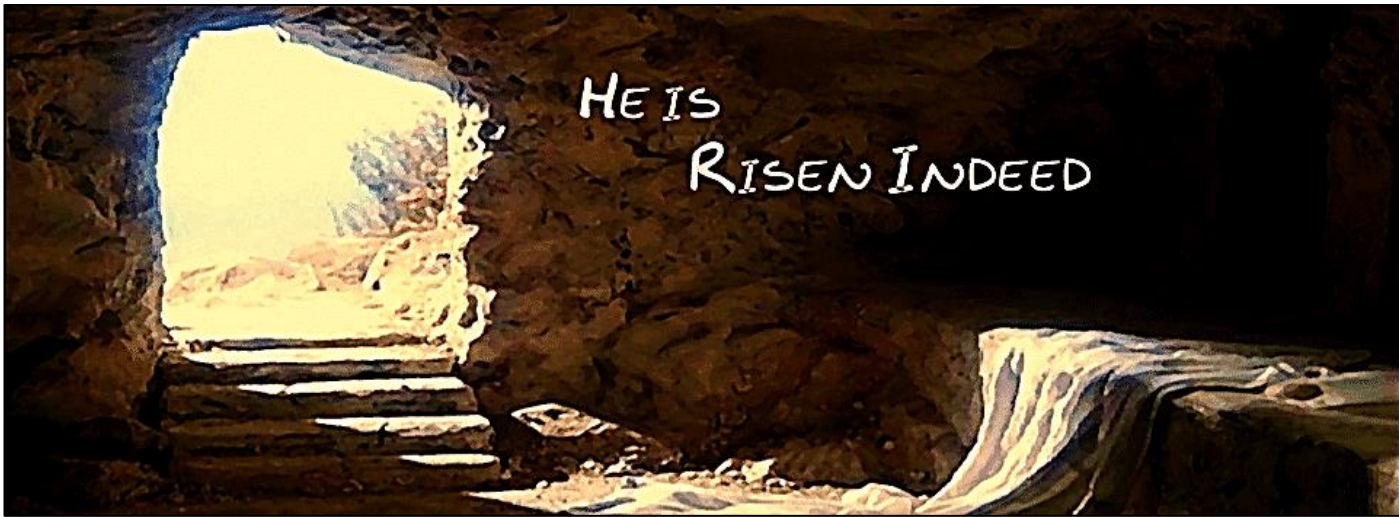
Read John 20:1-18

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+20&version=NIV>

- Put yourself in Mary's shoes.
 - Who might she have thought had taken Jesus' body?
 - What would you have thought when you found the stone rolled away from the tomb and his body missing (v.1-2)?
- Why do you think she went to Peter and John (he's generally thought to be 'the disciple Jesus loved')?
- What did they see when they got to the tomb (v.5-7)?
- What are the various options for what might have happened to Jesus' body?
- John said 'he saw and believed' (v.8).
 - Verse 9 suggests that the disciples still didn't understand the biblical and theological importance of the resurrection. So, what do you think he believed?
 - Why do you think what he saw made him believe?
 - Would you have believed?
- What did the disciples do next and what did Mary do (v.10-11)?
- Who did she see (v.12-14)?
 - Do you think she knew who they were?
- Why might she not have recognised Jesus (v.14-15)?
- What makes her recognise him (v.16)?
- What does Jesus tell her to do (v.17)?
- Why do you think Jesus told Mary that he would be ascending to his Father (v.17)?
- In New Testament times, women were not viewed as reliable legal witnesses and yet it is his female followers who play the important role of first witnesses to Jesus' resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24: 1-12). What does this say to you?

Think

- At the end of this chapter (v.30-31), John states why he has written his book. How does his account of the resurrection help you to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and to have life in his name?
- The Christian faith is not just about believing facts. It is about believing in a person – Jesus – and being in relationship with him. As you have celebrated Easter, how has it strengthened your relationship with Jesus?



There will be no Digging Deeper produced for next Sunday (24th April) so here's a Bible study you could do yourself.

- Read each of the gospel writers' accounts of the resurrection: Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-49; John 20:1-29
 - What are the similarities?
 - What are the differences?
 - Why do you think each writer tells the story from a different angle?
 - What stands out particularly for you as you read? Why?
 - What do you want to say to Jesus as a result of what you've read?