

Easter Sunday Devotional

Scripture: John 20:1-18

“Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord.’” -John 20:18

Devotional Thought:

Before the sun had fully risen, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb—still wrapped in grief, expecting to tend to death. But what she found shattered every expectation and forever changed the world. The stone was rolled away. The body was gone. The silence of the grave had been broken.

At first, she wept. Confused. Disoriented. Even angels could not lift her sorrow. But then—He spoke her name. *“Mary.”* And everything changed. The risen Christ did not appear first to the powerful, the religious elite, or even the remaining eleven disciples. He came to Mary—a woman whose life had been radically changed by His love and mercy. The first witness to the resurrection was not a theologian, but a disciple of the heart.

This is the God we serve. The God who calls us by name. The God who walks out of the tomb with scars that speak of both suffering and victory. Easter is not just a happy ending. It is the *beginning* of new creation. Sin has been defeated. Death has lost its sting. And love has triumphed in a way no one saw coming.

Mary ran to the others and proclaimed: *“I have seen the Lord.”* That is our calling, too. To run from empty tombs into a world that still thinks death has the final word—and to say with conviction and joy: He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Reflection Question:

Where is the Risen Christ calling your name today—and how will you proclaim, with your life and voice, that you have *seen the Lord*?

Prayer:

Risen Savior, you have shattered the grip of death and brought light to the darkest places. You call us by name and invite us into resurrection life—right here, right now. Give us eyes to see You, hearts to believe in You, and courage to proclaim You. May we never lose the wonder of the empty tomb. Christ is risen! Alleluia! Amen.