

Small group Questions

Easter 2015, John 20:1-18

1. Our themes this morning come from Jesus' questions to Mary, and to us, when he asks, "Why are you crying?" and "Who are you looking for?" These become important questions for us as we contemplate our search for life in places other than the resurrected Jesus Christ.
 - a. What things do we as humans search for that lead us to a place of emptiness and longing? What do things do we search to give us life that only Jesus can give?
 - b. What pain have you experienced by searching after things that only lead to death?
2. In our sermon this morning, Travis suggested that there is great joy in realizing that a better question to ask may be, "Who is searching for me?" Where can we see in this passage that Jesus is searching for us.
 - a. How do the OT verses Hosea 6:2 and Isaiah 43:1 speak to this?
 - b. How does the account in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3) reflect God's relentless search for us?
 - c. What does it mean to you that Jesus is searching for you? What level of love for us is found in the fact that he know our name?
 - d. What must Mary have felt when she heard Jesus call out her name? Can you recall a time when you feel Jesus has sought you out?
3. Running is another theme in this passage. Running seems synonymous to business.
 - a. How are our lives too busy for Jesus?
 - b. What are some ways that you can slow down and listen for God's voice?
 - c. How can we hear God's voice today? Does he still call out to us?
 - d. It ways does God seek to get our attention, even today?
4. In 20:17, Jesus uses new terminology to talk about the disciples and our relationship with the Father. What is Jesus saying by call in God, "my god and your God?"
 - a. How does 19:26-27 reflect this reality as well?
 - b. How has Jesus created a new definition for family through his resurrection?
 - c. What does being a part of God's family mean for our lives?
5. Jesus asks Mary to go tell the disciples that he has risen. Who have you told this too lately? Are you sharing this truth with actions and words with those around you?