

AfterWords
Easter at Charter Oak Church
John 19:38-42 and John 20:11-18
April 17, 2022

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to equip you to do the next right thing. If you are leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out the questions that will stir up conversation and action around your group.

KEY POINT

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus were the last ones to have contact with Jesus. Mary Magdalene was the first to see Jesus after the resurrection. All three took significant risks, but the risk was worth it because it put them into the redemption story of Jesus. How tough is your faith?

LAUNCH IT

- What is your favorite part of Easter? What traditions did your family celebrate when you were growing up?
- Do you think most people have forgotten or taken for granted the true meaning of Easter? Why?

EXPLORE IT

- Read **John 19:38-42** and **John 20:11-18**
 - Read the passage out loud. Pick a couple of different translations.
 - We are reading the Bible to learn to hear the voice of God.
- What jumped out at you about the passage? Words, names, people, location, verbs?
 - What do you think was going through Joseph and Nicodemus' minds as they buried Jesus?
 - What emotions do you think Mary Magdalene wrestled with as she approached the tomb?
- Read **John 19:38-42** and **John 20:11-18** in one or two different translations. Have someone re-tell this story in their own words.
 - What do these verses say about God?
 - What do these verses say about people?
 - What do these verses say about obedience?

APPLY IT

- Re-read **John 19:38-42** and **John 20:11-18** one more time.
- Have someone else re-tell this passage in their own words.
- In light of what we now know about this passage, what is God calling you to **do** this week?
 - Make it specific and be ready to share what you did next time.
- Who is the Holy Spirit prompting me to share these verses with?
 - Make it specific and be ready to share what you did next time.

PRACTICE IT

- Now what?
 - Are you a secret follower of Jesus like Joseph? In light of the resurrection, how is God prompting you to be bold with your faith?
 - Are you a skeptic like Nicodemus? In light of the resurrection, how is God prompting you to wrestle with you questions that will lead to greater faith?
 - Do your past sins haunt you like Mary Magdalene? In light of the resurrection, how is God revealing His love and grace in your life that will lead you to live into your new identity in Jesus?