

Easter ~ The Power Of Easter

S.O.A.P: Matthew 28:1; Matthew 28:6

Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. The angel spoke to them and said; He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. Matthew 28:1 Matthew 28:6

Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her. "Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him." She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?" "Mary!" Jesus said. She turned to him and cried out, "Rabboni!" (which is Hebrew for "Teacher")

1. Mary Magdalene was a woman who was freed by Jesus by the demons that possessed her. Her encounter with Jesus and the help He provided forever changed the way she lived. How has Jesus been a help to you?
2. What struggles or areas of your life are you resistant to the help of Jesus?

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. Romans 8:11 NLT

3. How might this verse change your perspective of the help that Jesus provides?

The Power Of Easter Brings Us HOPE

S.O.A.P. John 20:24-27

They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! But Thomas replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side." The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

1. Sometimes, like Thomas, we allow doubt to steal our hope. What area of your life do you allow doubt to stand in the way of faith?
2. In the video we watched Sunday, Matt Lee shared a moment of surrender that forever changed his life and the life of his family. Share a time you surrendered your unbelief. How can you make this surrender an ongoing practice in your life?