



Love God



Love One Another



Do Mission Together

Home Group study: week beginning 24th April 2022

THEME: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY - GOOD FRIENDS STAY CLOSE

PASSAGE: JOHN 20v1-18

LAUNCH

When was the last time you had a really dark day but felt that God helped you out in some way?

Are there any old friends that you should be catching up with more?

DISCOVERY & UNDERSTANDING

Why do you think Mary was chosen as the first person to see the risen Christ? How did this elevate the status of women in 1st century Palestine as Keith suggested on Sunday?

In the light of Luke 8:2 and Mark 16:9 what makes it especially appropriate that Mary is the first witness?

What is the confusion that takes place in the first few verses of this passage? Can you remember a time when you heard news that caused you to act in a confused way?

On finding out that the stone had been rolled away, Mary, Peter & John automatically assumed the worst (that the body had been stolen) rather than the best (a risen Jesus). In what situations are you in danger of assuming the worst? Spend time praying for the opposite (a miraculous solution) to take place.

In the midst of her grief, Mary had difficulty in recognizing Jesus (vs 15). During our own times of sadness and despondency what are some of the ways we can draw closer to Jesus in a realistic way?

Jesus speaks Mary's name (vs 16) and everything changes. Do you think Jesus knows your name? Why or why not? If he does how should this be an encouragement to you?

Mary is called to be the first witness of the resurrection and also to be the first witness of the news of the resurrection. Why is the resurrection such good news? What holds believers back from sharing that news with others?

APPLICATION

Pray for the Alpha course that those attending will recognize the risen Christ

Pray that you will be able to see Jesus despite your particular set of difficulties & be a joyful witness to his resurrection

Pray for anyone who is going through a hard time at the moment that Jesus would become real to them