

# Connecting to the Resurrected Christ

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Shame is the fear of being disconnected. (Brené Brown)

While empathy from another human being is healing, a connection with the resurrected Christ is the ultimate antidote to shame and to all other forms of brokenness or darkness in our lives.

Scene #1: **MARY MAGDALENE'S ARRIVAL AT THE TOMB** (See John 20:1-18)

*Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.*

John 20:1 (English Standard Version)

*But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup>And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup>Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.*

John 20:11-18 (ESV)

*I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection . . .*

Philippians 3:10 (New International Version)

- The more you know Him, the more you grow into the power of His resurrected life.
- The more time you spend with Him, the more it stirs up the resurrection power that is within you through the Holy Spirit.
- "Resurrection power" = the continual presence of Christ in our lives through the Holy Spirit

**Scene #2: THE DISCIPLES' WALK WITH JESUS ON THE EMMAUS ROAD**  
(See Luke 24:13-35)

... "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup>The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup>but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup>In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup>but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." Luke 24:19-24 (NIV)

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. Luke 24:27 (NIV)

**Scene #3: THOMAS' ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IN THE UPPER ROOM**  
(John 20:24-31)

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." <sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." <sup>30</sup>Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:24-31 (NIV)