
SERMON NOTES April 11, 2021

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

John 20:11-18
God Qualified Witness
Pastor Mike

- I. A most _____ witness
- a. Part of a _____ minority
 - b. Marked with a _____
 - c. Known for a _____

Why would Jesus choose Mary as _____

II. The _____ of our qualification

III. The _____ call of Jesus

- a. Jesus calls us _____
- b. Jesus calls us into _____
- c. Jesus calls us _____

God doesn't _____, *he* _____

those he _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. The resurrection of Jesus from the grave is the most important event in all of human history, and the eyewitness testimony to the resurrection is vital as evidence for the truthfulness of the resurrection. Therefore, the choice of the person to be the first witness of the resurrection was a very important decision. Jesus chose to appear to Mary Magdalene as the first witness.
 - a. In his message Pastor Mike talked about some of the things that made Mary Magdalene a most unlikely and in that culture a most unqualified witness to such a significant event. What about her story stood out to you personally? Why did that part of her story stand out to you?
 - b. Why do you think that Jesus chose such an unlikely and seemingly unqualified person to be the first witness to his resurrection?

2. John 20:12 gives a very specific description of the angels in Jesus' tomb. It says that Mary stooped to looking in "*And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.*" When the Bible gives this kind of detail, there is always a meaning in the details.
 - a. In his message, Pastor Mike linked this picture at the tomb to the image of the mercy seat, or the top of the Ark of the Covenant. Why is this significant? What is the meaning in this picture?
 - b. If we are now invited into the Holy of Holies, and called to gaze upon the Ark of the Covenant, what does that mean regarding our relationship with God?

3. Read John 10:3-4. When Jesus called Mary by name, and Mary recognized him by his voice, Jesus was fulfilling the image he taught in John 10.
 - a. What does it mean that Jesus calls his sheep by name; that he calls you by name?
 - b. What does it mean that we are to recognize his voice?

4. In his message, Pastor Mike taught that as he did with Mary, Jesus takes the things in our life and our past that would seem to disqualify us, and he transforms them and redeems them so that they become part of our qualification for the ministry he calls us to.
 - a. What does Pastor Mike mean by this? How does God do this?
 - b. What are things in your life that would seemingly disqualify you for relationship with God and ministry for God?
 - c. How can God transform and redeem those things and use them as part of your qualification?