

"How Big Is Your Stone?"

ALIVE

E A S T E R at H E R I T A G E N A Z A R E N E C H U R C H

ICE BREAKERS

- ✝ Have you ever witnessed a miracle? Share.
- ✝ Do we always recognize miracles when they occur?
- ✝ Have you had a miracle happen in your own life?

MIRACLES
STILL HAPPEN

READ John 20:1-10

- ✝ Why were the women going to the tomb?
(Reference Mark 16:1-8 and Matthew 28:1-10)

READ Mark 16:3

What was the talk about on the way to the tomb?

NOTE: The stone, represented an obstacle, wall, or divide between them & Jesus. It had to be removed!

- ✝ When they arrived at the tomb, what did they find?



READ John 20:10-18

- ✝ Why doesn't Mary recognize the angels?
- ✝ Why doesn't she recognize Jesus?

- ✝ Who does she think Jesus is?

READ John 20:16



- ✝ What was it that helped her to recognize Jesus?

- ✝ Why do many people not recognize Jesus for who He is?

RECOGNIZE HIM (vs. 16)

- ✝ Can someone believe in Jesus and not His resurrection?

NOTE: Belief in Jesus is not enough for salvation. Many believe in a historical figure named Jesus, but not as the Son of God!



READ Romans 10:9

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

- ✝ What does this say?

READ John 20:16 again

✝ Did Mary go beyond recognizing Jesus?

NOTE: I believe she accepted Him for who he is: King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Savior, Master, “Rabboni” (teacher).



ACCEPT HIM (vs. 16)

✝ How about you? Is accepting Christ a stone for you? Is it a stone for someone you love?

NOTE: Remember stones keep us from Jesus. They are obstacles.

✝ Take time now to pray for those who need to go beyond recognition of Jesus to accepting Him as Savior!

READ John 20:17

✝ How did Mary worship Jesus here?

NOTE: Putting all the Gospel accounts together, she fell at His feet and submitted to Him.



✝ Right worship starts with humility and us falling before Jesus and submitting to Him.

WORSHIP HIM (vs. 17)

✝ Are you a worshiper of Jesus? How do you express your worship? Do you worship Him with your words, deeds, and actions?

✝ Is worship a “stone” for you? Does a lack of worship keep you from Jesus?

SHARE HIM (vs. 18)

READ John 20:18

✝ Did Mary share Jesus? In what ways?

✝ Was she the first to share the “Good News of Jesus”?

✝ Technically, was she the first preacher or missionary?



✝ Who have you shared the Good News of Jesus with lately? Who do you need to share with?

NOTE: The Good News is...Jesus came, Jesus died, Jesus came back from the dead, Jesus has changed my life.

✝ Mary recognized Jesus, accepted Jesus, worshiped Jesus, and shared Jesus!

✝ Have you removed all obstacles/stones between you & Jesus?

✝ Sometimes rocks get between us and Him. Any rocks that need to be rolled away?

✝ Will rocks/obstacles keep us from being close to Jesus?

✝ What about rocks of pornography, doubt, unforgiveness, lust, past abuse, divorce, anxiety, grief, fear, heartache, or disappointment?

✝ Can these things be a rock, stone or barrier that keeps us distanced from Jesus?



✝ Let Jesus remove stones that keep you from being close to Jesus!

APPLICATION

✝ Be bitterly honest and talk about any stones in your life with your group or family! There is accountability that comes from verbalizing our stones!

✝ Pray for one another!