

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026 Sermon Outline
“He is Alive, Now What?” John 20:11-20; Luke 24:25-32

Let’s talk about reactions to the Resurrected Lord.

What do you expect out of Christ’s followers? To exhibit fear, support, doubt or surprise? They were _____ (**shocked**), stunned, and taken totally off guard. The question becomes: What is our faith based upon? What we see and touch or the _____ (**truth**) of the Gospel?

What did people find at the empty tomb? (Vs. 2) Mary thought that Jesus was _____ (**kidnapped**). (Vs. 8-10) Peter and John realized the missing piece was the resurrected Christ.

What was the first sighting of Jesus Christ being resurrected? (Vs. 11-17) It was early in the morning. (Vs. 19-23) The second sighting was evening. (Vs. 26-29) The third sighting was later after eight days. Who witnessed the resurrected Lord? (vs. 11 and 18) Mary Magdalene; Vs. 19 and 26) the disciples; (Vs. 26-28) Thomas.

What is similar with each sighting of the resurrected Christ? An _____ (**appearance**), a _____ (**reaction**), and a _____ (**statement**). What reaction (Vs. 11-29)? First and foremost, we have the reaction of Mary. Is feeling believing? Mary Magdalene retraces her steps to the tomb. She is alone and drawn by some irresistible desire to visit the place she had last seen her Lord. How was she? Troubled, confused and weeping. Who is with her? An angel.

What did the two angels in the tomb say to Mary? (Vs. 11-13) “*Woman, why are you weeping?*” What did Mary say? “*Because they have taken my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him*” (Vs. 11-13).

Before she turned around Jesus was standing with her. Imagine the surprise. What is surprising about the conversation? (Vs. 14-15) She

thought that the man was a gardener. What did she say? (Vs. 14-15) “*Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.*”

How does Jesus first address Mary? (Vs. 16) As woman. And what happens to Mary? She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, “*Rabboni!*” (Which means, Teacher). Does Mary throw her arms around Jesus? It’s implied. What does Jesus do? Gives her an errand. (Vs. 17) He says, “*Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren, and say to them, ‘I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.’*”

What does Mary do? (Vs. 18) She returns to the disciples to _____ (**announce**) what she has seen and heard. What is Mary’s response to the resurrected Christ? Emotionally anxious and clingy. She’s worried. She seems to resemble someone with shallow roots (Mark 4:3-6, 16-17).

How do the disciples react? (Luke 24:37) Pale as ghosts. After a closer look they express peace in their hearts.

What is the reaction of Thomas? (vs. 24-25) He wants to see for himself. What is the reaction of the future followers? Is trusting believing?

How do we think about Easter, and the resurrected Christ impacting our hearts and lives today? If your faith isn’t grounded in fact, you have faith without firm foundations like Mary. She relied on feelings. Add sight to faith and multiply doubt like Thomas. He had to see Jesus for himself. He had to touch the scars. And finally mix faith with truth in believing in Christ as your Lord and Savior. And you have life in His name (Your name written in the Lambs Book of Life) (Revelation 21:27).

What do we do with Jesus now?