



**Sermon Title: "Relationships Have Changed"**

**Scripture: John 20:11-18**

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Sunday, October 14, 2018

## **INTRODUCTION**

Review: Four Pieces of Evidence that Point to the Reality of the Resurrection:

Evidence #1: The Open Door

Evidence #2: The Empty Tomb

Evidence #3: The Grave Clothes

Evidence #4: The Eyewitness Testimony

***2 Peter 1:16 - "For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses."***

***John 20:31 - "...but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."***

## **I. JESUS' FIRST POST-RESURRECTION APPEARANCE: MARY MAGDALENE**

### **1. Why did Jesus first appear to Mary Magdalene?**

Note: There is a fundamental problem with this question that reveals something ugly about us.

### **2. Why did Mary return to the tomb with Peter and John? What was she seeking?**

Note: Mary rightly refers to Jesus as "my Lord".

### **3. Why didn't Mary immediately recognize Jesus?**

Note: Not recognizing the resurrected Christ is a recurring theme throughout the gospels.

***Luke 24:13-35; John 21:4 -***

Note: No one can recognize Jesus (for who He truly is) until He reveals Himself to them.

***Luke 10:22; John 10:3, 27-28 -***

#### 4. Why wouldn't Jesus allow Mary to "cling" to Him?

Note: Jesus wants Mary to know and understand that He must ascend to the Father.

#### 5. What is the meaning and significance of the message that Jesus gives to Mary?

Note: The message that Jesus gives to Mary to proclaim is one of adoption.

##### 5a. How and why were we adopted?

Note: Your adoption was planned and accomplished (not by you!) by God.

**1 John 5:1; 3:1 -**

Note: The blessing of adoption into God's family is something we receive through Christ.

**John 1:12; Galatians 3:26 -**

##### 5b. What does our adoption practically mean for us?

Note: Our adoption means that we can gladly recognize (and welcome!) the Father's authority.

Note: Our adoption means that we can rejoice in the loving affection that exists between us and God.

**John 17:23 -**

Note: Our adoption means that we are made "brothers" and "co-heirs" with Christ.

**Mark 3:35; Romans 8:16-17 -**

##### 5c. How should we now live in response to our adoption?

#### Take Home Questions for Further Study & Reflection & Application...

1. How should our adoption affect our trust and confidence in God? (Matthew 6:31-33)
2. How should our adoption help us answer questions like: "*Does God really love me? Is God for me or against me? Does God even like me? Is God sorry that He saved me? Has God forgotten me or left me?*" (Romans 8:14-17, 28-30)
3. What are some specific ways that we can imitate our Father? (Ephesians 5:1-2; Matthew 5:43-48)
4. How can our adoption and standing in Christ encourage us to pray? (Matthew 6:5-13; Romans 8:26-27; Hebrews 4:14-16)
5. What does 1 John 3:1-3 teach us about God's love and the affects of God's love?