



# Encounter



## Key Message

Jesus rose from the dead, He is alive and wants to connect with you whether you can see it or not.



## Intro Questions

- When you get great news who do you run to tell?
- What about when you get bad news?
- Have you ever doubted someone close to you when you shouldn't have?
- Think of a time someone surprised you with good news? How did you react?


## Bible Story - John 2:1-11

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him! So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene. Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus. He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

## Questions

- What does it mean to have faith?
- Why do you think Jesus chose Mary Magdalene to be the first to witness His resurrection?
- Mary did not know where Jesus was; do you know where He is in you?
- Why do you think Mary did not recognise the situation? What causes you not to recognise pivotal situations?
- Do you think you need an encounter with God in order to believe? (**Matthew 19:26**)
- Do you ever doubt that Jesus did rise from the dead?
- Why do we doubt, explore doubt in more detail with your group? Do you think the disciples ever doubted? How do you deal with doubt?
- How were the disciples lives changed after seeing the resurrected Jesus?
- If you truly believed this and didn't ever doubt how would it change your life?
- How did Jesus speak to Mary what is the first thing he said to her? (**John 10:3-4**) God calls his sheep by name.
- Can you hear Jesus calling your name?

## Pray

 Pray for anyone who wants to connect to God, whether that is a reconnection or for the first time. Ask each person if they have any unanswered prayers that we could pray for.



Can you post anything on Facebook about what you've learnt today?



Can you post a picture on insta representing what you've done today?



Can you post anything on SnapChat about what you've learnt today?