

ENCOUNTER #33: John 20:1-18 WHOM ARE YOU SEEKING?

EVERYONE - KID HIDE/SEEK – S1 Picked be it/hide CLOSED EYES 10 – GET WARM

- UR IN CHURCH – how many when ur IT cheated? **PRETEND NOT TO LOOK**
- WE PRETEND A LOT.... pple tdy pretend to b happy **TRUTH MOST Are NOT**

NBC: Americans are the unhappiest they've been in 50 years. **CNN:** American happiness hits a record low **ATLANTIC:** Are we trading our happiness for modern comforts?

Consumerocracy, bureaucracy, technocracy *promise us greater satisfaction* but don't deliver.

More connected but lonelier. Wealthier but emptier. Entertained but depressed. Inundated with information but confused and desperate for answers. DO U KNW

WE ARE ALL SEEKING SOMETHING – AMERICA IS FILLED WITH RESTLESS HEARTS

- **SOME:** Pretending/Faking It (SM) **SOME:** u know no hiding it (in heart/face)

MP: St. Augustine was right when he said, of God “You have formed us for Yourself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in You.”

RESTLESS HEARTS ON RESURRECTION MORNING – maybe that surprises you

No 1 understood/Expected JC Rise. All motion MIN. Miracles. Movement. halt. silence

He said he would rise – if they believed sit tomb w/pop – WAIT 4IT ANY MIN NOW

- Before ur 2 hard – hows ur faith –AF ALL WE KNOW - **WAIT 4 IT FAITH/A.M.N**
 - o RU sitting in front of stone that's rolled over ur situation A.M.N. - GOD

Running all over the place – running ragged - you will rr until find 1 resurrected

MARY OF ALL PEOPLE, EMERGES AS A FOCAL POINT

WHY MARY? Many Marys – **THIS WAS THAT MARY** Story had become well known – **HER HANDLE was #Possessedby7demons..... I know mary....**

- **HOW DO U GET TO PLACE** – OPENED HERSELF UP sp gateway SEEKIN ALL WRONG THINGS – **(Completely consumed/controlled)**

You're in a bad place when what you seek in the world takes control of your life.

Make no mistake. Thank God for blessings. money, health, job, education, auth, relat..

While these blessings make wonderful servants, they make horrible masters.

- IF NOT CAREFUL – u seek consume u – claws in you – gain a foothold/shold – take root – take control – **WILL NEVER GIVE WHAT JESUS GIVES - LOVE**

There's only one thing that can break you free from those strongholds that's love of JC.

- WHAT HAPPENED MARY – J BROKE stronghold/CONTROL – **DROVE OUT**

HOPIN4HOPE It's just 2 big. 2powerful. Grip. Ur in a vice – **JESUS CAN SET U FREE**

John 8:36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Turned her into a Seeker – ONCE SHE HAD JESUS SHE DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING ELSE

LOVE MADE MARY A SEEKER

? SEEK: EPISODE COPS - To be in hot pursuit... One thing on your mind. One goal to

reach. Apprehend. Nothing going to stand in your way. **HOW MUCH DIFF UR LIFE GOD**

Relentlessness seeking. **BC HIS LOVE** she never looked back. NEVER STOPPED FOLLOWED HIM galilee. Jerus. \$\$ Mt. Olives. Carried X. Crucified. Buried. Tomb morn You couldn't keep her away. What's been keeping you away?

- EXPECTED TO FIND HIS COLD DEAD BODY – STIFFENING UP Rigor Mortis All Evidence Piling Up Something else was going down. Angels had spoken. Garments folded. Stone rolled away. Tomb empty. **BLINDED BY HER DESPERATION**

- Looking for the wrong thing. DEAD MAN. SAVIOR. RESCUER. HEALER In despair, Mary thought the story was over (that's what despair will do) and what she didn't realize was the story had only just begun.

When you are seeking Jesus, it's never over, because resurrection power has the final word in your life..

JESUS' CLEARS THE AIR AND REVEALS HIMSELF

WHO ARE YOU SEEKING? TO BRING HER TO HER SENSES – GET HER INTO LIGHT

- Ur seeking the wrong. Stiffening body. stench of decaying fl. This story isn't over. – **I'M NOT DEAD ALIVE**

BUT NOT UNTL HE SAID HER NAME - CLOUD IS LIFTED – (every memory flood) –

doubt was overcome. Fear evaporated. Stress Silenced. Delivered from Desperation.

HEART FILL – **FRESH OUT OF GRAVE – HE MEETS HER.** SHE MATTERED WHY **D/R**

The dead man that you're looking for isn't here but the risen Savior who loves you is!

- **THE SAME JESUS THAT RESCUED MARY AND SO MANY OF US. RESCUED??**

2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

He came out darkness of the tomb to call you out into his light – he came out of the tomb to pull u out of ur guilt, he came out of the tomb to lift you out of your sin. He came out of tomb get out of the INDECISION

HE IS CALLING YOU – **BY NAME**

- **YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO COME u don't know wife u could No**

It's good you're in church on Easter Sunday morning. You're getting warmer. It's good that you've been touched by worship and that you've listened to a teaching, you're getting warmer. But now you need to stop pretending, reach out your hands and grab a hold of Jesus.

- **OPEN YOUR EYES – THOUGH YOU WERE LOST YOU WILL BE FOUND**