

Mary Magdalene, once broken and dismissed by society, was chosen as the first witness of the risen Christ—a stunning act of divine grace. Her story reminds us that Jesus often entrusts the greatest truths to the least likely, revealing a Gospel that is rooted not in status or merit, but in unearned love. When she clung to Him, Jesus gently redirected her, showing that His resurrection had removed the barrier between God and His people forever. This moment invites us to release fear, shame, and the need to prove ourselves, embracing a new identity as beloved children in God's eternal family. In doing so, we're called to reflect on how grace transforms our past, reshapes our worth, and redefines who truly belongs.

Read: John 20, 1 Corinthians 1:27-28, Hebrews 2:10-13

- 1. What does Mary Magdalene's story teach us about how God views our past—and how should that shape the way we view ourselves and others?
- 2. Why do you think Jesus chose Mary—not Peter, John, or another "pillar" of the disciples—to be the first witness to the Resurrection?
- 3. Are there areas in your life where you feel like you are "too broken" for God to use—or even love?
- 4. What are you holding onto so tightly in your life right now—perhaps even good things—that Jesus might be asking you to release in trust?

5. What would change in your day-to-day life if you truly believed that you are not just a follower of Jesus—but a beloved child, part of His eternal family?

