

Small Group Discussion Guide
Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

Icebreaker:

- When was the last time you visited a cemetery? What was it like? How did you feel?
- Growing up, what was your favorite thing about Easter?

Read: John 20:1-18

1. How do you think Mary was feeling on her way to the tomb?

a) *lonely* b) *deserted by God* c) *angry at God* d) *like her heart was crushed* e) *in shock—unable to believe what had happened* f) *depressed—unsure how to make it through the day* g) *other*

2. What do you think was the disciple's general reaction to Mary's news of an empty tomb?

a) *"This woman is crazy with grief."* b) *"What have they done with Him?"* c) *"We better check this out!"* d) *"Maybe he has risen?!"* f) *other*

3. Why didn't Mary recognize Jesus at first?

a) *his appearance was different* b) *she was blinded by grief* c) *Jesus did not want her to recognize Him yet* d) *other*

4. How did Jesus respond to Mary?

a) *He calmed her by calling her name* b) *He opened her eyes* c) *He spoke to her heart* d) *He restored her hope* g) *other*

5. When was the last time you had a good cry?

6. What circumstances cause you to seek Jesus and his companionship?

a) *difficult times* b) *loneliness* c) *the loss of a loved one* d) *a great worship experience* g) *the beauty of nature* h) *Christian fellowship* i) *other*

7. How can this group support you in prayer?