

LIVING HOPE
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Woodland Church
Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

“Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. “Dear woman, why are you crying?” the angels asked her. “Because they have taken away my Lord,” she replied, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn’t recognize him. “Dear woman, why are you crying?” Jesus asked her. “Who are you looking for?” She thought he was the gardener. “Sir,” she said, “if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him.” “Mary!” Jesus said. She turned to him and cried out, “Rabboni!” (which is Hebrew for “Teacher”). “Don’t cling to me,” Jesus said, “for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, “I have seen the Lord!” Then she gave them his message.” (John 20:10–18, NLT)

HOPE IS CONFIDENCE GOD WILL DO SOMETHING GOOD IN LIFE AND THE LIFE TO COME.

“I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said.”
(1 Corinthians 15:3, NLT)

1. JESUS CHRIST’S RESURRECTION GIVES ME CONFIDENT HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.

“He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.” (1 Corinthians 15:4–6, NLT)

“Think carefully ...” (1 Corinthians 15:34, NLT)

2. JESUS CHRIST'S RESURRECTION SHOWS ME WHY MY HOPE IS SECURE.

a. Death is defeated.

"O death, where is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15:55, NLT)

b. Death is consumed.

"Death is swallowed up in victory." (1 Corinthians 15:54, NLT)

c. I will be transformed!

"Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die..." (1 Corinthians 15:54, NLT)

"Our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever." (1 Corinthians 15:50, NLT)

d. The truest me will finally be.

"When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't grow into a plant unless it dies first. And what you put in the ground is not the plant that will grow, but only a bare seed of wheat or whatever you are planting. Then God gives it the new body he wants it to have. A different plant grows from each kind of seed." (1 Corinthians 15:35–38, NLT)

"It is the same way with the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength. They are buried as natural human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, there are also spiritual bodies." (1 Corinthians 15:42–44, NLT)

"Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven. Earthly people are like the earthly man, and heavenly people are like the heavenly man. Just as we are now like the earthly man, we will someday be like the heavenly man."
(1 Corinthians 15:47–49, NLT)

GROWTHWORK

1. Stand firm in your faith.