

1. **Pray:** ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word
2. **Think:** the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word
3. **Begin:** using only your Bible, answer the questions without other outside sources

Lesson Thirty—The Gospel of John Chapter 20

May 6, 2009

1. What day is it in John 20:1?

2. Who is Mary Magdalene and what has she witnessed up to this point (John 20:1)? Refer to Lesson 1, Question 3(f) and John 19:25.

3. Compare and contrast Mary Magdalene and the disciples, Peter and John, in John 20:1–13.
Be sure to include:
 - Their whereabouts in the predawn hours
 - How you **think** they were feeling before encountering the empty tomb
 - Mary M.'s course of action upon seeing the empty tomb/The disciples' course of action upon hearing the news of the empty tomb
 - What they may have been thinking and feeling after seeing the empty tomb
 - What they did after further investigation of the tomb

Mary Magdalene	Peter and John

4. What is revealed to you about Mary Magdalene when you take into the account the results of your comparison in Question 3, the timing of her arrival at Jesus' tomb, and her decision to stay after the disciples had left?

5. a) Describe in detail what was noted inside the tomb in John 20:5–7.

b) Why do you **think** these details are important?

6. In John 20:12–13, what do you notice that is bold about Mary in this conversation with the angels?

7. a) Why do you **think** Mary Magdalene didn't recognize Jesus in John 20:14–15?

b) What do you **think** the angels and Jesus **are** trying to tell Mary Magdalene when they ask, "Woman, why are you crying?"

8. a) Describe how you **think** Mary Magdalene heard Jesus speak her name in John 20:16.

b) Describe how you **know** Jesus is speaking to you (especially when you are confused and distracted). If you are not a believer in Jesus Christ, what do you need in order to believe that He is speaking to you?

- c) With what emotion did Mary Magdalene answer Jesus? How do you know? (See John 16:19–22).
- d) Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene first according to the gospel of John. In what ways are you like Mary Magdalene? In what ways would you like to be more like Mary Magdalene?
9. a) What does Jesus tell her to do in John 20:17?
- b) What is different about what Jesus quotes in John 20:17 and the written scriptures that contain the quotes? (Look up John 7:33 and 16:5). **Why?**
10. a) How do you **think** the disciples receive Mary Magdalene's news?
- b) How do the disciples receive Jesus when He appears to them in John 20:19–20?
- c) What things does Jesus impart to the disciples in John 20:21–23?

d) Describe the ways Jesus displays His condition of being human in John 20:19–23. Why is this important?

11. a) Why did the apostle Thomas doubt the others' report of Jesus' resurrection?

b) How did Jesus respond to Thomas' doubt in John 20:27 and 29?

c) In spite of all you've read and heard, what aspect of the Bible do you doubt? What will you do to obey Jesus' command in John 20:27?

12. Do the miracles you have studied in the book of John cause you to believe or deepen your belief that Jesus is the Christ and Son of God? Do you have life or more abundant life in His name now? Explain.