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**RESURRECTION HOPE: DISCOVER HOPE THIS EASTER**

**Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020**

**Pastor Mike Prah**

*“Because God raised Christ from the dead and gave Him great glory, your faith and HOPE can be placed confidently in God.”* 1 Peter 1:21 (NLT96)

**1. MARY MAGDALENE FELT HOPELESS**

*“Mary Magdalene stood crying outside the tomb. While she was still crying, she bent over and looked in the tomb and saw two angels dressed in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been. They asked her …‘Woman, why are you crying?’ She answered, ‘They’ve taken my Lord away, AND I DON’T KNOW WHERE THEY’VE PUT HIM!’ . . .*

*“Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there; but she didn’t know that it was Jesus. ‘Woman, why are you crying?’ Jesus asked her. ‘Who are you looking for?’ She thought he was the gardener, so she said to him, ‘If you took him away, sir, tell me where you have put him and I will go and get him.’ Jesus simply said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned toward him and said in Hebrew, ‘Rabboni!’ which means, "Teacher!"… So Mary went and told the disciples with the news: ‘I HAVE SEEN THE LORD!’”* John 20:11-18 (GN+NIV)

* ***IT’S NEVER TOO LATE FOR A MIRACLE***

“*Jesus said, “The things that are impossible for people to do are possible for God to do.”* Luke 18:27 (GW)

**2. THOMAS FELT HOPELESS**

*“On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord …*

*Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I WILL NEVER BELIEVE.”*

*Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered him, “MY LORD AND MY GOD!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”* John 20:19-29 (ESV)

*“God, who got you started in this spiritual adventure ... will never give up on you. Never forget that.”* 1 Corinthians 1:9 (MSG)

**3. SIMON PETER FELT HOPELESS**

*“Later Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee… This was the third time Jesus had appeared to his disciples since he had been raised from the dead. After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of Jonas, do you love me more than these?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ Peter replied, ‘you know I love you.’ ‘Then feed my lambs,’ Jesus told him.*

*Jesus repeated the question: ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ Peter said, ‘you know I love you!’ ‘Then take care of my sheep,’ Jesus said. A third time he asked him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, “Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.” Jesus said, “THEN FEED MY SHEEP.”* John 21:1-17 (NLT)

* ***IT’S NEVER TOO LATE TO START OVER***

*“Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we’ve been given a brand-new life, and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven*” 1 Peter 1:3–4 (MSG).

*“Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ*” 1 Corinthians 1:30 MSG).