

Read: *I have seen the Lord*. With these words Mary Magdalene startles the grieving disciples. Resurrection hope is spawned and will soon spread like a soothing ointment to all who will believe -- some having seen, and others simply by faith -- that what Jesus of Nazareth said he would do, he did. Read <u>Luke 24:1-11 and John 20:2-18</u> through slowly, taking in the wonder and joy of these moments.

This is the turning point in human history, for in it we see the power of love, the likes of which the world has never known. Read <u>Ephesians 4:14-21</u> with a strong voice. There is no other love like this. Read it again. Soak the words in, savor them, and live in Christ's love as you choose a word, a phrase or a verse to focus on today.

Think: Review the passage again and ponder the word or phrase that stands out to you. What do you see of God's nature in this? What do you see about his heart for people? For you? Turn this word or phrase over and over in your mind—gently, like a fragile treasure.

Pray: Ask the Holy Spirit to impart God's message for you from this passage. What is he inviting you to consider? To do? To know? Open your heart and ask him to write his love deeply within you.

Rest: Sit quietly with what you have heard or sensed or experienced. Let all other thoughts go, except the reality of God's presence here and now, with you. Let him love you. If it helps, play worship music in the background. If your mind gets distracted, gently whisper "I receive your love" or "I love you, Lord."

I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched and all the navies that ever were built, and all of the parliaments that ever have sat, and all the kings that ever reigned put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life, Jesus of Nazareth.

Anonymous