

The Gospel of John Resurrection

Interpreting the Text:

1. Take a few minutes to compare the story of the crucifixion in John's Gospel with that in Mark's Gospel. What differences do you see, and what might explain these differences?
2. How does the inclusion of many languages written on the cross speak to John's emphasis on Jesus' universal salvation? Are there other details in John's gospel that support this intention?
3. Despite John's emphasis on sight, the apostle Thomas is admonished for insisting that he see the resurrected Jesus with his own eyes. What do you think John intends here? Why does John include the line "blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe?" (John 20:29)

Applying the Text:

1. The Gospel has frequently pointed to the cross as the central event in the story of Jesus. How does the story of the crucifixion relate to the stories of the resurrection and the appearances of Jesus? How is this lived out in the contemporary church?
2. What is the role of the disciples of Jesus in the story? Of Mary Magdalene? Of Peter? Of the Beloved Disciple? Of Thomas? Who do you relate most to?
3. Generally speaking, women are more prominently featured in John's gospel. How does John's gospel support the ministry of women in the church?
4. Throughout John's Gospel we have noted a number of scenes in which the evangelist helps show us what faith looks like and how the reader might grow in faith. What does faith look like in these resurrection stories...and are there clues for how the readers, too, might grow?