

## Encounters

### Part 8-Encountering the Love of Jesus

#### John 20:1-9

*Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put Him!"*

*Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed-for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. John 20:1-9 NLT*

#### Who was this Jesus? The CREATOR of the UNIVERSE.

*In the beginning the Word already existed.*

*The Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.*

*He existed in the beginning with God.*

*God created everything through Him,  
and nothing was created except through Him.*

*The Word gave life to everything that was created,  
and his life brought light to everyone.*

*The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness can never extinguish it. John 1:1-5 NLT*

#### At the last supper, Jesus, the Creator of the Universe...

##### 1. WASHED His disciple's feet.

*Jesus knew that the Father had given Him authority over everything and that He had come from God and would return to God. So He got up from the table, took off His robe, wrapped a towel around His waist, and poured water into a basin. Then He began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he had around Him. John 13:1-5 NLT*

##### 2. SHARED a traditional meal with powerful symbolic meaning.

*On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal for you?"*

*"As you go into the city," He told them, "you will see a certain man. Tell him, 'The Teacher says: My time has come, and I will eat the Passover meal with my disciples at your house.'" So*

*the disciples did as Jesus told them and prepared the Passover meal there. When it was evening, Jesus sat down at the table with the Twelve...*

*As they were eating, Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then He broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take this and eat it, for this is My body."*

*<sup>27</sup> And He took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them and said, "Each of you drink from it, <sup>28</sup> for this is My blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many. Matthew 26:17-20, 26-28 NLT*

**Why did Jesus, the creator of the universe, do these things?**

**Because He LOVED His disciples and wanted to be in RELATIONSHIP with them.**

*Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that His hour had come to leave this world and return to His Father. He had loved His disciples during His ministry on earth, and now He loved them to the very end. John 13:1 NLT*

**Three Thoughts for us this Easter...**

- 1. God doesn't want us to practice a RELIGION, He wants to be in a RELATIONSHIP with us.**

*"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son..." John 3:16a NLT*

- 2. We cannot EARN God's favor, we have to simply ACCEPT what Jesus did for us on the cross.**

*...so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16b NLT*

- 3. Jesus, the creator of the universe, LOVES us and wants to SAVE us.**

*God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through Him. John 3:17 NLT*

**How should we respond?**

*Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. They were both running... John 20:3-4 NLT*

**What would stop you from surrendering your life to Jesus?**

**Are you ready to run to Him today??**

**Please have this slide available...**

**If you surrendered your life to Jesus today and have received His forgiveness, please text me at 615-519-3671 with the words "I surrendered my life to Jesus today!!"**