

**Study 23** John 20- 21

1. Look at the John 20:17 where Jesus tells Mary not to cling to Him. Why did He mention this whilst at the same time he invites Thomas to stick his hands into His wounds?
2. What can you deduce about the resurrection body of Jesus from the information in John 20-21. Was this just a spiritual resurrection as some have claimed? What kind of resurrection was this? How would you have reacted had someone told you he saw someone raised from the dead? What would be your reaction now?

What is the reason for the difference? What kind of hope does Jesus resurrection hold for us?

What kind of response should we expect from the world concerning Jesus' resurrection?

**Challenge:** Just like Mary, who has experienced the risen Jesus first-hand, Christians, who live in relationship with the risen Jesus, are called to share the good news of the resurrection with others. May the resurrection compel you to go and tell others this good news!

3. Why do you think Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me"? Why doesn't he ask, "Will you be obey me from now on?" or "Are you sorry?"
  - a. Why does Jesus have to ask three times?( For a clue look at the passage and how is Peter's response different on the third time)
  - b. What does Jesus mean by his request that he "feed my sheep."?
  - c. What does it mean to be a shepherd? Look at 1 Peter 5:1-3 for clues as to what it means to be a shepherd.
  - d. Why is it important to remember they are Jesus' sheep?
4. Jesus does not demand perfection or proficiency. He asks for love. Machiavelli said, "It is better to be feared than loved, if you cannot be both." Which motivates you more – fear or love? How does fear or love affect the nature of the relationship?

5. Pamela and George was encountering a classmate Paige who was interested in the Christian faith but wanted to have absolute faith before she would commit herself. Paige insisted “unless I can be convinced of the resurrection scientifically , I will not believe and you have to convince me”. George read John 20 :29b to Paige and told her that Jesus said “ Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” There is no need to have any proof because it all about faith without seeing, that’s the kind of faith that will be blessed and that’s the only kind of faith Jesus will reward. Do you agree with George ? If not how shall Pamela encourage her friend?
  
6. Jason was a pastor before in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Baptist church for the past 12 years but fell into the sin of adultery when he ran off with his secretary and joined another faith. Years later, he returned after marrying another lady and was quietly worshipping at the back of the church hall and rarely every mixing around. How do you think we can reach out to a person like this? Or should we? After all he betrayed the faith.

### Sharing

1. If Jesus asked you, “Do you truly love me more than these?” how would you respond?
2. Who are the “sheep” Jesus wants you to care for? Did your mission project for the Church Has Left the Building inspire you to care for more of His sheep?
3. Is there some failure, fault or frustration in your life right now that your group can lift up in prayer today?

In your closing prayer time ask Jesus to fill you with His love and forgiveness. Ask Him to show you the sheep He wants you to feed and care for.