

QUESTIONS FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

- 1. At the tomb, Jesus' disciples don't immediately understand that he has been raised. What do they think and why?
- 2. In several stories of Jesus' resurrection, he is not immediately recognized even by people who knew him well. There seems to be a spiritual dimension to this blindness. Do you think you have ever experienced something similar in your own way? Can you think of times where you recognized Jesus' presence in your life only gradually or after the fact?
- 3. In the message this week we considered the possibility that Mary's mistake about Jesus being the gardener might suggest a deeper truth. What kind of cultivation do you think Jesus might want to do or might be doing in your life? Fertilizing and nourishing? Binding up wounded shoots? Pruning? Weeding? Harvesting? How so?
- 4. Jesus asked Mary two questions that run deeper than they first appear. Reflect on these questions for yourself.
 - Why are you weeping? Think of the things that are upsetting you, grieving you, or frightening you. Do you know why those circumstance are having such an effect on you?
 - Whom do you seek? This is an echo of John 1:38, "What do you seek?" but now Jesus hints that the answer isn't a thing but a person. Think of the things that you are pursuing. Do you know what you're really looking for?

DAILY WORSHIP - BIBLE READINGS:

JESUS APPEARS TO MARY MAGDALENE

April 24 John 20:11-18	April 28 John 21:1-14
April 25 John 20:19-23	April 29 John 21:15-19
April 26 John 20:24-28	April 30 John 21:20-25
April 27 John 20:29-31	