



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Now Series, Lesson 49

Lesson Title: Resurrection – Jesus is Alive!

Take Home Point: Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have the power of life over death.

Warm-Up:

Picture someone holding a flashlight. He flips the switch but nothing happens. "Come on!" he says to the flashlight. "I know you can light! I believe in you!" You ask him if he has batteries in the flashlight. He says no. Wondering what he is thinking, you give him some batteries. He holds the batteries in one hand, and switches on the flashlight with his other hand. Of course it still does not light. "What's wrong?" he cries. "I have a good bulb in my flashlight, I'm pushing the switch just right, and as dark as it is getting, I know it should light up!" Amazed, you tell him, "You have to put the batteries in the flashlight. You can have the best bulb ever, but until that good bulb has power from batteries inside the flashlight, nothing is going to happen. Just holding them in your hand isn't going to help. The power has to be on the inside."

Read: John 20:11-18; Romans 8: 9b-11

Observation (What happened?):

According to Romans 8, what is made alive when Jesus is in us?

What did Jesus tell Mary to do?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Mary looked into the tomb again, after the disciples had been inside and saw the burial clothes set aside?

What did Jesus mean when he said, "Don't hold on to me?"

Insight:

In a Bible study I attended, we were discussing what it meant to have the Spirit of Jesus living in us. One member of the group mentioned that it should make us think about the places we went, because Jesus has every right to ask us, "Why did you go there?" But then another member of the group made a profound statement. He said that what Jesus really could ask was, "Why did you take me there?" I believe my friend had a view of Christ's presence that accurately reflects Romans 8. He is always with us. It is his power that makes us alive again in our spirits and human bodies. It is his power that frees us from the death grip of sin. And since his Spirit is always with us and in us, his power is also always with us. So we take Jesus wherever we go. My friend's statement changed the way I look at going to places I know I shouldn't be. No longer do I feel guilty and think, "I shouldn't be here." Now I think, "Is this a place I want to bring Jesus?" Because that is what you and I are doing, everywhere we go.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

How do you recognize that Jesus is speaking to you?

What does it mean to you that you are alive in Christ? How does it change the way you live?