The Hour of Risen Glory

Read: John 20:1-18

Main idea: Jesus' resurrection transforms His hour of suffering into eternal glory, calling us to encounter and proclaim Him as the risen Lord.

Key Verses: "Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." **(John 20:16-17 ESV)**

Key Principles:

- The empty tomb testifies to Jesus' victory over death, urging us to seek Him with faith and urgency, trusting His risen power.
- The resurrection's evidence—Scripture, grave clothes, witnesses—grounds our belief in Christ's triumph, dispelling doubt.
- Encountering the risen Jesus personally shifts us from grief to joy, transforming our lives through His intimate call.
- Jesus' resurrection body, though transformed, is physical, affirming the reality of His victory and our future hope.
- Responding to Jesus' resurrection with faith and obedience shapes our identity as God's children and fuels our mission.
- Easter calls us to invite others to meet the living Christ, sharing the hope of His glory with a world in need.

Discussion:

- 1. What drives you to seek Jesus when life feels dark or confusing? How does the empty tomb challenge you to trust Him even when answers aren't clear?
- 2. What evidence—Scripture, answered prayers, or changed lives—has convinced you of Jesus' resurrection? How can we share this evidence with skeptics in our lives?
- 3. When has grief or fear blinded you to Jesus' presence? How have you seen God turn your tears into triumph?
- 4. How has Jesus called you in a personal way—through a moment, a verse, a conviction? Why is encountering Him personally vital for faith?
- 5. What does it mean for you to be sent by Jesus today? How can you balance worshipping Him with sharing His message, especially in tough settings?
- 6. How does Jesus' victory give you hope in your current struggles? Why is it urgent to share this hope now?

Prayer:

- Pray that we would trust in God's resurrection power in our darkest moments.
- Pray for:
 - Open eyes to see the evidence of His life to strengthen our faith and witness.
 - God to transform our grief into joy, equipping us to share Him.
 - Those far from Christ to meet Him, responding in repentance and faith.

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John 20:1-18

I.	Seek Jesus in His risen power.		20:1-10
	1.	Run to the empty tomb.	20:1-4
	2.	See the evidence of life.	20:5-10
II.	Meet Jesus in His risen presence.		20:11-16
	1.	Move from tears to triumph.	20:11-13
	2.	Change from searching to seeing.	20:14-16
III.	Proclaim Jesus in His risen mission.		20:17-18
	1.	You have been sent.	20:17
	2.	You must <u>respond</u> .	20:18

NEXT WEEK: **A Change of Heart** 2 Corinthians 3:1-6