Whom Are You Seeking?

John 20:10-18 ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent down to look into the tomb, ¹²and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³"Woman, why are you weeping?" they asked. "Because they have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I do not know where they have put Him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there; but she did not recognize that it was Jesus. ¹⁵"Woman, why are you weeping?" Jesus asked. "Whom are you seeking?" Thinking He was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried Him off, tell me where you have put Him, and I will get Him." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to Him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷"Do not cling to Me," Jesus said, "for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go and tell My brothers, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, to My God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them what He had said to her. (BSB)

- I. Who was Mary? Luke 8:1-3 ¹After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, ²and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; ³Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means. (NIV)
 - A. She was a woman from a fishing village called *Magdala*.
 - **B.** She had been delivered from <u>demons</u>.
 - **C.** She <u>provided</u> financial resources for the ministry of Jesus Christ and His disciples.
- **II.** Here are the details of today's passage.
 - **A.** Peter and John had just <u>left</u> to go home. They had seen the empty tomb and they didn't know what had happened either. V. 10
 - B. Mary was weeping. V. 11
 - C. Mary <u>looked</u> inside the tomb and saw two angels. V. 12
 - D. Mary's grief blinded her to the angels and to Jesus Himself. V. 13-14
 - **E.** Jesus asked her two very important *questions*. V. 15
 - F. Mary wanted to find the lifeless **body** of Jesus and carry him back with her. V. 15
 - G. With one word Jesus opened her eyes. V. 16
 - H. Jesus informed her that He hadn't ascended to the Father yet. V. 17
 - I. Mary <u>testified</u> that she had seen the Lord! V. 18
- III. What can we learn from this?
 - **A.** Too many live like the Lord is still <u>dead</u>.

- **B.** Too many live <u>oblivious</u> to the amazing things that God has done and is doing around them.
- **C.** Trying to maintain a <u>religious</u> standard is like carrying around a corpse.
- **D.** Once we get the truth that we are in a <u>life-saving</u> relationship with a living Lord, we cannot help but tell people.