



The Creator Creates Faith

John 20:1-31

Faith: The Currency of the Kingdom

- “Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.

Habakkuk 2:4

- And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

- ²³ And Jesus said to him, ““If you can’! All things are possible for one who believes.”
²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”

Mark 9:23-24

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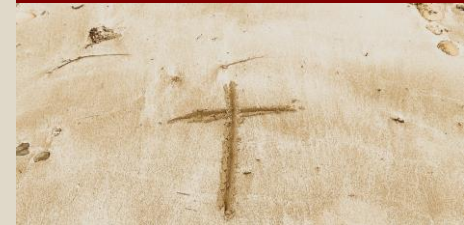
John 20:1-31

Observe the Creator Create Faith

1. **Four Unique Faith Stories** (Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, Fearful Disciples, and Thomas)
2. **Four Barriers to Flourishing Faith** (False Narrative, Hesitancy, Prison of Fear, Independence)
3. **Four God Responses that Create Faith** (Sound, Evidence, Presence, and Personalization)
4. **Four Manifestations of Faith in Action** (“faith” as a verb and not just a noun; an action / attitude)
5. **Two Personal Invitations to join God in the Grace • Faith Connection** (declaring the object of our faith and receiving His gift through our faith)

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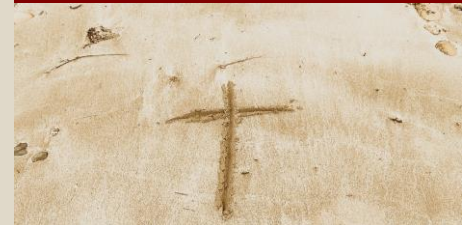
John 20:1-31

What did they believe?

- John 2:11 This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.
- Matthew 16:16 Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
- John 11:27 She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

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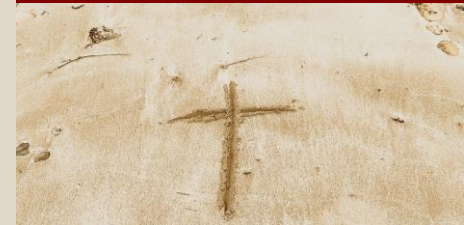
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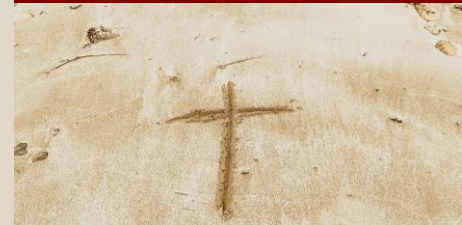
John 20:30-31

Faith Purpose Revealed

- **John 20:30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
 - Why these four narratives?
 - John sees himself more than a reporter or biographer, but as an evangelist of the Gospel.
- **John 20:31** but these are written
 - so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,
 - and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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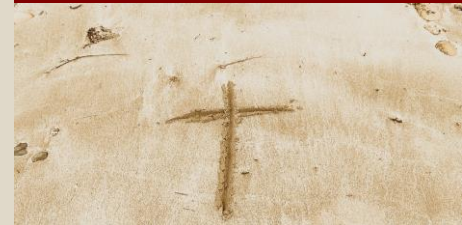
John 20:1-31

Faith Purpose Revealed

- What did they disciples believe?
- What did the disciples not believe?
- Is it possible to have partial faith?
- How much faith is need to achieve acceptable faith?

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John 20:1-31

What did they not believe?

- **Why does Romans 10:9-10 emphasize the belief in the resurrection?**

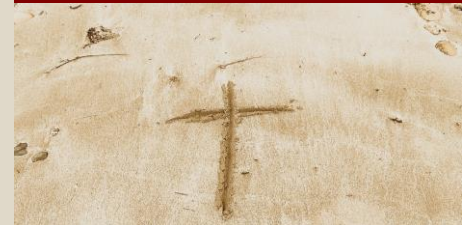
⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

- **Why does Paul describe the Good News with the words of 1 Corinthians 15:3-5**

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

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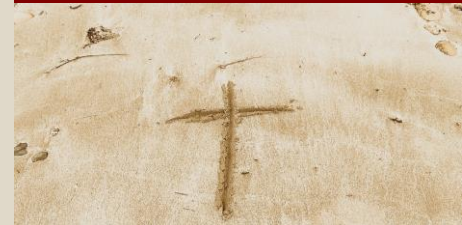
John 20:1-31

Prayer

- Reveal to us our individual faith barriers.
- Ask God to create faith in us.
- Ask that the image of who Jesus is will be brought into sharper focus in our hearts.
- Ask that we will wholeheartedly join God by working out the faith He is creating in us.
- Ask that we will experience His eternal and abundant life to live faith, even during our darkest days.

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Mary Magdalene

Barrier: “A False Narrative”

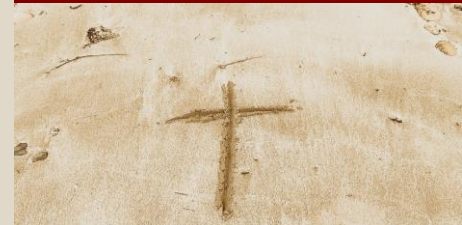
¹ Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

John 20:1-2

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Mary Magdalene

Barrier: “A False Narrative”

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb.

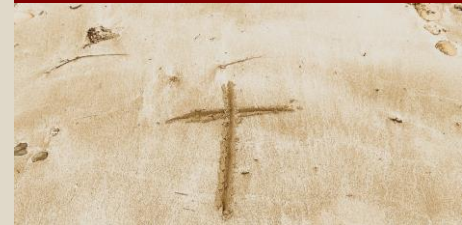
¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.

¹³ They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”

John 20:11-13

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Mary Magdalene

Barrier: “A False Narrative”

⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel.

⁵ And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead?”

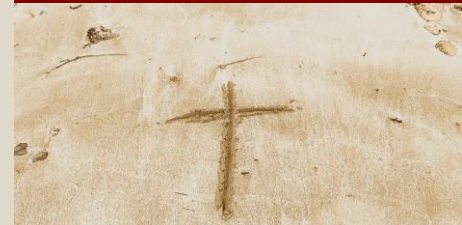
⁶ He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee,

⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”

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Luke 24:4-7



Mary Magdalene

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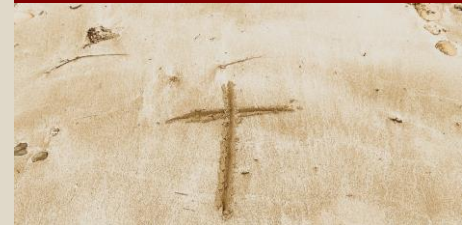
¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.”

John 20:14-15

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Mary Magdalene

Barrier: “A False Narrative”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).

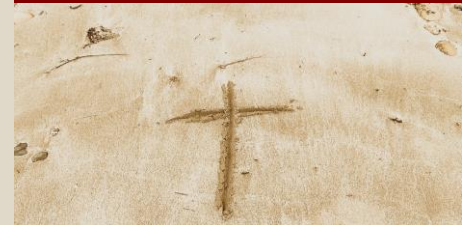
¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

John 20:16-18

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Peter and John

Barrier: Hesitate / Vacillate

³ So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb.

⁴ Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

⁵ And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.

John 20:3-5

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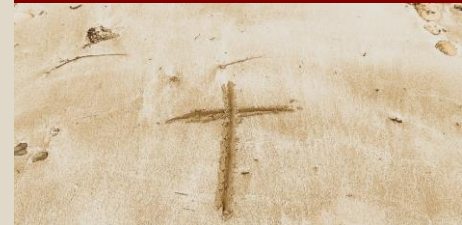
Peter and John

Barrier: Guilt / Unworthiness

- Luke 24:33-34 ³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!”
- 1 Corinthians 15:5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

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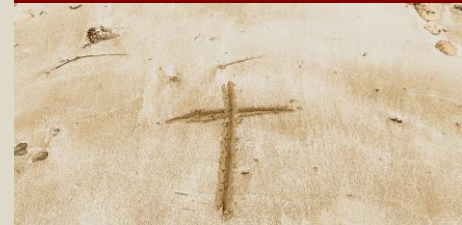
Barrier: Hesitate / Vacillate

⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there,
⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself.

John 20:6-7

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Peter and John

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⁸ Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;

⁹ for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.

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John 20:8-10



Disciples

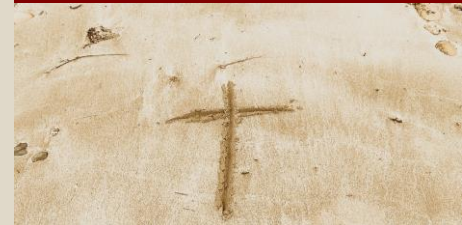
Self-Constructed Prison of Fear

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

John 20:19

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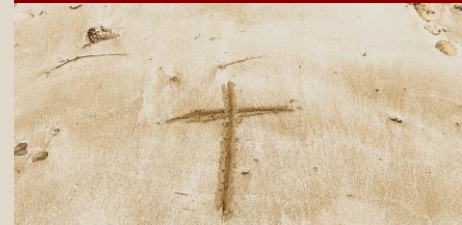
Self-Constructed Prison of Fear

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

John 20:20

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Disciples

Self-Constructed Prison of Fear

²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”

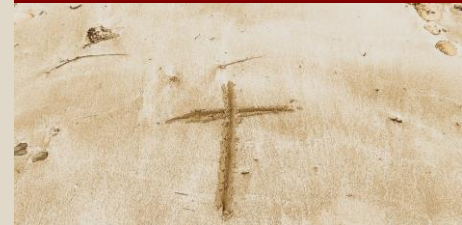
²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

John 20:21-23

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Thomas

Independent / Self-Sufficient

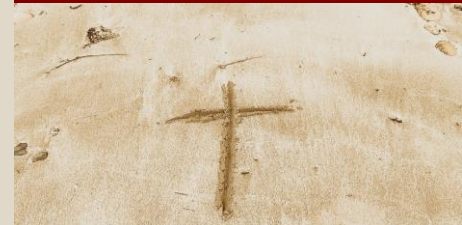
²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

John 20:24-25

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Thomas

Independent / Self-Sufficient

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

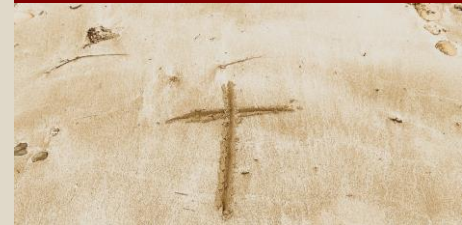
²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”

²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

John 20:26-28

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Thomas

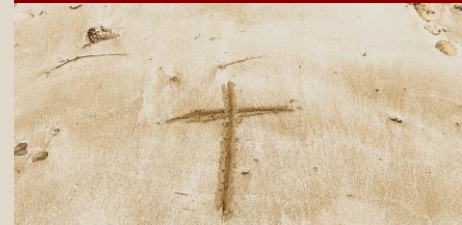
Independent / Self-Sufficient

Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

John 20:29

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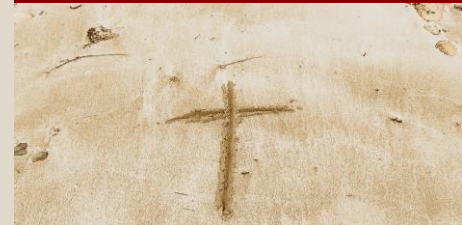
John 20:30-31

Faith Purpose Revealed

- **John 20:30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
 - Why these four narratives?
 - We see the need and implications for belief in the resurrection.
- **John 20:31** but these are written
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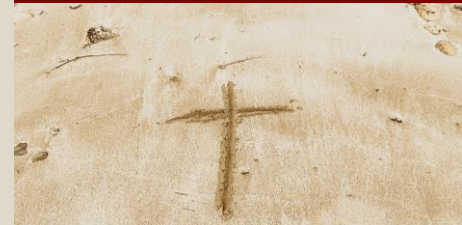
John 20:1-31

Belief in the Resurrection

- Acknowledge your need for greater faith
- Acknowledge and Identify your personal faith barriers
- Trust and Join God as He works to create faith in you
- View your faith as verb – living by faith

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