

Good Friday - April 15, 2022

Connecting to Preserve the Precious

[John 18:1-19:42](#)

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. (John 19:38-41)

How important and precious this task was to Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Their work was timely and detailed. They jumped to it quickly. They met together, even though it seems clear that each one came as he felt led.

How about you? Is it possible there is something that you bring when you meet together at church—a prayer, a praise, a testimony, a song?

What if we connect with our fellow church-goers, old and young, and make a plan of how we can reach our community, street by street, business by business, schools, or nursing facilities? What if we set a goal, choose a realistic date by which we can meet this goal, and then launch out in pairs or small teams to accomplish this task?

Like Joseph and Nicodemus, we should be equipped with the necessary materials needed for our task.

Instead of strips of linen, we give scriptures of truth. In place of myrrh, aloe, and spices, we invite those we meet to receive eternal life through Jesus so that the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead may dwell in their body, too. That will spice up someone's life!

Just as God had provided a new place for Jesus' body, we can invite those we meet to the place God has provided for us to gather— at our local church, to learn and fellowship, and worship together, preserving the precious lives that Jesus died to save. Wow! That releases a sweet savor to the throne of heaven.

***Prayer:** Heavenly Father, help us to see how precious all our lives are. We pray that we can wrap others in the conversation of the Good News that preserves and delights the soul. Help us to be strong and supportive and the link that brings others to you. Amen.*

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