March 31, 2024 – Easter Sunday

## **Unknown Situations**

John 20:1-10

<sup>2</sup> 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."

The many years growing up in a very pagan-oriented home was, let's say, very different from my school friends. The simple mention of going to church in my family was grounds for severe looks as well as lectures.

When Jesus had risen, no one knew that He was risen; those closest to Him simply thought His body had been moved.

You can imagine my reaction once I grew up and started experiencing churches and the people in them, some who were kind, some who were not so kind, and a lot of "unknown." After I had started trying to find my way and where I belonged in Christianity, there seemed to be a lot more "unknown."

It wasn't until I moved to West Virginia and started actually being willing to talk through years of bitterness with God and be willing to trust His love for me that I started finding my way in an amazing church.

There have been a lot of "at the tomb question everything" moments... but if there is one thing I am learning and being reminded of, it is that He is there.

It's not always the situation I see at first. Sometimes those situations come as the death of a loved one or even a situation we can't seem to let God handle. We don't "go all the way in." At the end of the day we need to remember later in the scripture Jesus showed Mary the way, and He will always step in and show us the way.

The most spiritual prayers I've prayed are a simple "Lord, I'm lost... can you hear me?" That's usually when God stops me in my tracks and uses a situation to remind me my past doesn't matter or define me any longer.

**Prayer**: Father God, help us day to day remember your unending love for us. And Lord when we are skeptical or hesitant about anything you are leading us to, let us have faith to walk into it knowing you are holding our hand. In your loving name Father God, Amen.

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