

Verse of the Month Devotional

March

He is not here: for He is risen, as He said.

Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Matthew 28:6 KJV

Thoughts on the verse:

Two reasons I absolutely LOVE this entire chapter: First, Jesus comes back from the dead and the first thing He does is reveal Himself TO A WOMAN. (See John 20.) And not just any woman, but Mary of Magdalene, the one who was so tormented and demon possessed she could not even function in society until the Lord called her by name and redeemed her. (Won't He do it for me and you then!?) Second, God Himself sent an angel to comfort her and guide her in such a crazy moment in her life. Can anyone else relate? What a statement our Lord is making here, defeating death, hell and the grave only to return FIRST to a woman made whole only by the grace and power of God! Then He makes sure she has what she needs to be the one to ultimately begin sharing the Gospel to the nations: an angel to calm her ("Fear not" was the first thing he said to her), assure her ("I know you are looking for Jesus" was his next statement), remind her of His words ("He is not here, He is risen, as He said"), prove to and confirm for her ("Come, see the place where the Lord lay"), and direct her ("Go quickly and tell His disciples He is risen").

You guys, if we only had eyes to see and faith to believe like Mary! But you know, we DO: Every day we step out in faith and obedience to do the hard things right in front of us; both the mundane and the intense, the dirty and the beautiful. The scary things we know He is asking us to step out and do, and the confusing things He is asking us to stand in the gap and make up the hedge, hold ground and look for Him in the messy middle of it all. He is there, in full power and authority, meeting us and guiding us, our Provider, Protector and Hero.

Prayer:

Father we thank you that you know exactly what we need and when we need it, and You show Yourself strong and show up in all power and authority without even saying a word, or simply by using Your Still, Small Voice at exactly the right time. Thank you for meeting us where we are at, assuring us of Your presence and peace, and guiding us into Your perfect plan and purpose, every time.

Action:

List the ways that God turned your impossible situations completely around when it was the darkest and loneliest of times. Put the list where you can see it every day to remember all He has done, all He is capable of, and all you are believing He is going to do.

Notes: