

# Weekly Study Guide

The week of April 20, 2014

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## Daily Readings

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Monday	Matthew 28:1-20	Tuesday	Mark 16:1-8	Wednesday	Luke 24:1-49
Thursday	John 20:1-31	Friday	1 Corinthians 15:1-58	Saturday	2 Timothy 4:6-8

*My notes on this week's readings...*

## Next Week in Worship

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Next week is a hugely important week in our life together. For many months we've been praying and working to discern God's next steps for us as congregation as part of our Vision2020 process. Next week is the start of a four-week series called *The Heart of the Father* that drills down deeply into the kind of people God is making us to be to prepare us for the steps God wants us to take. Please don't miss next week. I hope it will help you know the Heart of the Father for you, and I hope it will help form the Heart of the Father in us. ~Pastor Steve

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# Group Discussion

Connect	<p>Can you think of a friend or family member who has died who you especially want to see again? Who would that be?</p>
Understanding	<p>Read <b>John 20:1-18</b> together. What do you find interesting or striking about this passage?</p> <p>Mary Magdalene saw the empty tomb; then she saw Jesus; then she could say “I have seen the Lord.” What would Mary have thought if she only found an empty tomb and never saw Jesus?</p> <p>What might Mary have thought if she had seen Jesus but the tomb wasn’t empty?</p> <p>Read Acts <b>4:1-20, 32-37</b>. Knowing that Jesus was alive, after having been crucified, changed everything for the disciples. What stands out to you about them?</p> <p>Why do you think the Resurrection of Jesus would make them live and talk and pray like this?</p>
Application	<p>Do you struggle with the truth of the Resurrection? Are there questions you have or resources you might like to explore? (A starting point could be to revisit last year’s Easter message on our website, <a href="http://www.flcwb.org">www.flcwb.org</a>, to review the reasons for our confidence in Jesus’ resurrection.)</p> <p>Is there any one particular feature of the early Christians’ prayer, boldness, generosity, or life transformation in response to Easter that particularly challenges you? Are there any first steps you think you should take?</p> <p>The witnesses of Jesus’ resurrection became witnesses for the sake of others. They had hope and joy they were compelled to share. Is there anyone in your life that you think God might want you to share the hope and joy of Jesus with?</p>
Prayer	<p>In your prayers today, please pray for those who don’t yet know, trust, and follow Jesus.</p> <p>Please pray for those who are sick and facing death, that they would be encouraged by the hope of eternal life.</p> <p>Please pray for our church community and your community group, that we would be filled with the Spirit of Jesus to live with new boldness and power.</p>