



Mid-week Devotion
March 28, 2021

“Where’s Mary??”

When we read the Biblical accounts of both the crucifixion of Christ as well as His resurrection one thing is certain for sure. Incredible chaos at both events. People are coming and going. There’s great confusion about what’s happening to Jesus. Some of Jesus’ disciples have scattered finding it extremely dangerous to even be vaguely associated with Jesus of Nazareth. At times the events of those few hours between the crucifixion and resurrection must seem like they’re moving in slow motion. There are several people, His followers who are braving Golgotha the place of the crucifixion. Most are women. It’s extremely dangerous for men to be at the event especially if they’re associated with a convicted seditonist like Jesus. One person is very evident at the crucifixion. John 19:25b reads, *“But standing by the cross of Jesus was His mother...”* Jesus’ Mom is right there watching the whole event unfold. That’s her Son whom the Roman soldiers are pounding the nails into. That is her Son whom the authorities have beaten, whipped, and bludgeoned into an unrecognizable mass of flesh. That is her Son of her own flesh who is hanging on the cross dying, gasping for air and trying to lift himself upwards on the cross for one more breath. Mary, His Mom? She’s there.

At the tomb where Jesus was laid there is one person conspicuously absent from those hurrying to the tomb to administer the burial preparations within the allotted time frame. Where’s Mary, His Mom? There are several other Mary’s who arrived at the tomb. Even some of Jesus’ more outstanding and noticeable followers were there. There was even a couple of not-so-noticeable followers in attendance. But, no Mary.

People deal with grief in lots of different ways. Often times we expect friends and family to act in certain ways when a loved-one dies. When my 19-year-old brother was killed by a drunk driver my Dad responded very differently than my Mom to my brother’s death. For years my Mom wouldn’t even mention or speak of the event. Not to detract from my Dad’s pain but I think it’s different for Moms. Mary was Jesus’ Mom. She bore Him. She nursed Him at her breast. She cleaned Him. Watched Him grow into a young adult and then a man. Maybe Mary’s grief was numbing, overpowering, and even all consuming. My Mom sat at their dining room table and for weeks stared out the window following my brother’s death. She even had significant doubts about God and why He would allow such a thing. Perhaps Mary is saying, “Friends, if you don’t mind, I’m going to sit this one out. Me and God need to work this through.”



CHRIST'S CHURCH
OF THE CANYON

The "Passion Week" leading up to the crucifixion is filled with confusion, shattered dreams, and questioning of God's best for us. It's like crawling on your belly in the middle of the desert dying of thirst. You can't move another foot. Your skin is peeling from the sunrays. The vultures are circling. You're about to give up. And then... the oasis! You can see it. Cool, pure water. All you can drink, just ahead. You're saved!! That's the resurrection. That's our hope. The story doesn't end at the tomb!!

Pr. Wayne

Easter Services

(All at Mt. Kare)

7:30AM - Outdoor service at Victory Circle

9AM Indoor - Service in the Lodge (childcare/children's program)

11AM Indoor - Service in the Lodge (childcare/children's program)