

## **Digging Deeper: John 20:1–9**

Written by Rick Noonan (Elder at MACC)

### **Day 1**

Before you start, pray asking for God's help so you can learn from His Word. Use a notebook or a journal to record your ideas and findings while you study and pray through His Word this week. Read John 20:1–9. The resurrection of Jesus is a key part of the Gospel message. Checkout 1 Corinthians 15:1–8. His rising from the dead is an essential doctrine in the Christian faith—that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Read Acts 2:32–36 and Romans 1:4. His resurrection concludes His work on the cross, complete atoning for our sin. Read Romans 4:24–25.

### **Day 2**

If you can, find a quiet place without distractions to settle your mind and spirit. Read John 20:1–9. Which day of the week was it when Mary first visited the tomb? Check out Genesis 1:1–5. What did God say on His first day; what did He create, verse 3? How did He describe it in verse 4? Think about the 'first' day of God's creation, and now think about Jesus' resurrection, also on the 'first' day of the week. Also, check out Matthew 28:1–10; Mark 16:1–8; Luke 24:1–12.

### **Day 3**

Pray for your neighbors. Ask God how He wants you to love and support your neighbors and friends with patience, love, grace and generosity today. Read John 20:1–9. What is the definition of a miracle? (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/miracle>) Do you believe in present-day miracles? What is the biggest miracle in your life? What effect has this had on you? On the lives of others around you?

### **Day 4**

Pray for who Jesus wants you to connect with today. Which 2–3 people come to mind as you pray? Call them. Send them an encouraging word. Read John 20:1–9. The truth of Jesus' resurrection was not immediately understood, even by His closest followers. Neither Mary nor the disciples were expecting the resurrection, in spite of what Jesus had told them. In verse 2, what did Mary think had happened?

### **Day 5**

Read John 20:1–9. Who is "the one whom Jesus loved," verse 2, or "the 'other' disciple," verse 8? Why do you think John refers to himself this way? Both John and Peter run to the tomb after they hear from Mary that Jesus' body is gone. Who gets there first? But who actually goes in and looks first? When Simon Peter went into the tomb, what did he find? If someone had violated the tomb and removed the corpse, would the linen cloths be so well arranged, if left behind at all?

### **Day 6**

As you pray, reflect and discuss with Jesus and the Holy Spirit about the past days of the week and how you can apply what you learned this week for His glory. One last time, read John 20:1–9. In verse 8, John finally goes into the tomb to see for himself. What happens next to John? How does that contrast to what we read in verse 9? Is 'belief' and 'understanding' the same thing? What does that mean for us as we read and study God's Word?