

Sermon Notes

Sunday, 4th April 2026

Crown Him King

Read: John 20.1-8

1. THE DARKNESS BEFORE THE DAWN

- Darkness in John 20.1 is not just a time of day. It is the human condition.
- Sin broke more than a rule. It severed a relationship. Isaiah 59.2
- The **result**: darkened understanding, alienation, hostility toward God. Ephesians 4.18, Colossians 1.21

2. SIN'S SACRIFICE OF LIFE

- Mary's grief is bigger than losing a friend. It is a picture of what all humanity has carried since Eden.
- Sin robs peace, joy, relationship, and finally hope.
- Those without a Savior grieve as people with no hope.
1 Thessalonians 4.13

3. GOD LEAVES CLUES IN THE DARK

- God has never allowed darkness the final word without planting seeds of hope inside it.
- The folded grave clothes are not chaos. Darkness leaves a mess. This was a clue.
- Grief and darkness may blind us to God's presence, but they do not blind God to us.
- Jesus calls her by name. One word pierces everything. John 20.16

4. DON'T GIVE UP

- Peter and John saw the evidence and went home. Mary could not leave.
- She stayed with an incomplete picture of Jesus, and it was enough.
- Your risen King may be closer than you think. Stay long enough to hear Him call your name.

5. CROWN HIM KING

- Mary's commission: go and tell. John 20.17-18
- He is not a memory or a myth. He is alive, reigning, and still restoring.
- Crown Him with glory. Crown Him with praise. Crown Him King.

FOR REFLECTION AND STUDY

- Where in your life have you been tempted to process what you can see and simply go home? What would it look like to stay?
- What "clue" has God placed in your darkness that you may have overlooked?