



Small group discussion questions April 2015

Jesus, Mary and the 'they'

Lance Stone (p28)

Read John 20:1-18, followed by Lance Stone's article.

1. In the Gospel passage, Mary says twice, in verses 2 and 13: "They have taken the Lord". Who do you think Mary imagines has taken the body of Jesus?
2. In paragraph five of the article, Lance quotes Martin Heidegger talking about "authentic living". How does he explain this phrase? Can you think of examples of what authentic and inauthentic living might look like?
3. In what way or ways are the "they" the enemy of authentic living?
4. In paragraph six, Lance gives two examples of the way we talk about the "they". Can you think of other examples?
5. Lance says, in paragraph seven: "The death of Christ has the fingerprints of the 'they' all over it." How would you explain what this means?
6. In paragraph eight, Lance mentions Mary's exclamation: "I have seen the Lord!" How do these words throw off the power of the "they"?
7. In paragraph nine, Lance says that the turning point of the story is the word "Mary". What is so important about that word?
8. What parallels does Lance find between this story and the story of Adam and Eve?
9. In the last paragraph, Lance lists things that "they" say – things which we often let oppress us. Can you suggest others?

