



Chapter & verse – Rosalind Selby (page 20)

Read John 20:1-18, followed by Rosalind Selby’s article.

1. Rosalind’s opening paragraph provides examples of experiences that ‘shake us to the marrow’ and can challenge our faith. Are there other examples?
2. The article’s third paragraph describes the shock that disciples might have felt at Jesus’ body not being in the tomb. What other emotions are expressed in the Bible passage?
3. In the fifth paragraph of her article, Rosalind tells the story of how grief caused her to ‘mis-experience’ the sight and sound of her school friend. Do you know of any similar stories?
4. Verse 15 tells us that even when Jesus spoke to Mary, she did not recognise him. Why do you think that might be?
5. Rosalind describes Mary’s recognition of Jesus as a ‘wonderful moment of revelation’. How can people recognise Jesus, and therefore experience that revelation, today?
6. Rosalind ends her article by focussing on what Jesus asks of Mary. Why is this task so important?
7. Jesus’ instruction to Mary, Rosalind argues, inspires hope that ‘we too might hear ourselves called afresh to a life of discipleship and be given a purpose’. Do you share this hope?

For further reflection: ‘You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.’ Psalm 30:11

Prayer: Jesus, you meet us in our grief and loss, but we find it hard to recognise you. Help us to know your living presence and to hear your call for us. Amen.