

Gospel of Second Chances

- Love To Have “Do Over” in some things:
 - money spent, invested differently
 - some things said would be held back
 - some things done would be avoided
 - opportunities missed would be taken
- with 20/20 hindsight, we would love to face some things in life that we could choose to “do over”. A second chance to get it right, and avoid the pain of wrong.

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- Friday Brought:
 - loss of hope for the people
 - loss of relationship with Christ
 - pain of abandonment of a friend
 - the appearance that three years wasted
 - darkness and despair

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- Sunday Brings a glimmer of hope

“Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, they have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him! So Simon Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus head. The cloth was

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“folded up by itself, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead)” John 20:1-9

Growing Hope For Peter and John

- John - 3 words for seeing
 - 20:5 - “to glance in, to look in”
 - 20:6 - “to look carefully, to observe.”
 - 20:8 - “to perceive with intelligent comprehension”

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Growing Hope For Peter and John

- For Peter:
 - In the past days; failure
 - No way to restore relationship
- If it is true: failure may be forgiven, relationship restored, and the future still has promise!
- The race is on, hope driving their legs towards the tomb, hardly daring to believe.

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Growing Hope For Peter and John

- Watch John pull up and look in
- See Peter Blow past and go in to see
- Note the detail:
 - grave clothes undisturbed
 - head cloth folded and separate from linen
- The evidence suggest the impossible

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Jesus is Alive

- There is a second chance for them in:
 - forgiveness
 - restored relationship
 - a future that matters

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So What

Jesus is Alive

- There is a second chance for us in:
 - forgiveness - from sin
 - restored relationship - with almighty God
 - a future that matters - for eternity