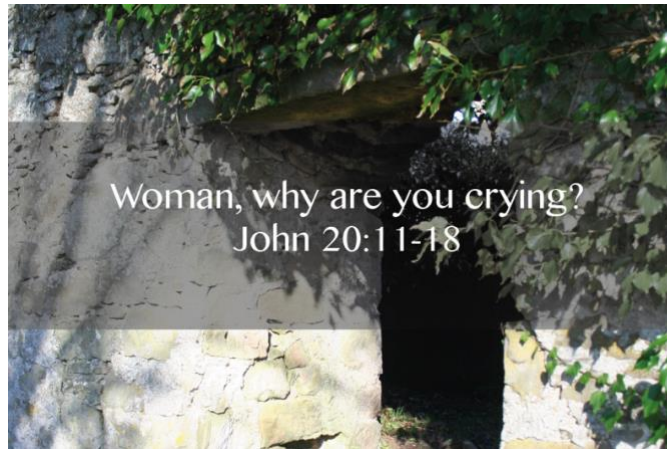


## *Women Of Destiny*

4/6/24



**Scripture:** *“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.*

**Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying.** *As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, **“Woman, why are you crying?”** “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. He asked her, **“Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”** Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “**Rabboni!**” (which means “Teacher”). John 20:1, 11-16 NIV*

Three times in this passage we see Mary Magdalene crying (verses 11, 13, 15). In Mark’s and Luke’s accounts of this story they let us know the reason for Mary’s visit to the tomb. She, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, and Salome purchased and prepared spices to anoint the Lord’s body.

Despite their grief, we see they are dutiful and devoted, but that soon turns to despair. Mary momentarily lost sight of her Savior. (verses 13-14)

*For we walk by faith, not by sight. (2 Cor. 5:7)*

*I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep and am known by My own. (John 10:14)*

Mary’s eyes failed her, but her ears could not mistake that voice saying her name. Jesus can preach a perfect sermon in one word.

Song – He Knows My Name

*He knows my name*

*He knows my every thought*

*He sees each tear that falls  
And hears me when I call...*

What are you grieving?

In your service unto the Lord, has your duty and devotion turned to despair?  
Due to a difficult situation or your sadness, have you lost sight of the Savior?

Throughout the pages of Scripture, we see weeping women – wives, widows, mothers, the sick, single, and the sinful.

Thankfully, the Lord cares for weeping women. He knows every detail of what we experience and has the capacity to sympathize with our weaknesses (Heb. 4:15).

He, too, is a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief (Isa. 53:3). Jesus wept (John 11:35).

Beloved, your tears are precious to God.

*“You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.”* (Ps. 56:8 NLT)

But we do not grieve as those who have no hope! Our hope is in Christ Jesus, the living Word.

*“Therefore, do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise.”* (Heb. 10:35-36 NKJV)

*“Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.”* (Ps. 126:6 NIV)

*“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”* (Rev. 21:4)