

Dare to Dance Again

Run to Win the Race that Matters

"I'm never gonna dance again, guilty feet have got no rhythm" crooned George Michael. It's been over a year since anything felt normal and that the darkness crowded in. But there's clearly a light dawning and hope should be springing up with it ... but let's be real, we've become so used to the dark, to the isolation, to our fears of those beyond our walls that stepping out may be a fearsome thing for some. That first Easter was a bit like that ... the darkness had set in and the handful of former followers were hunkered down in isolation where they felt safe. Little did they know, normal was never coming back.

John 20:1-10

1. Without an Easter, life is _____.
2. Without an Easter, life is _____.
3. Easter isn't the _____, it's the _____.

My Count Me In! Commitment

- I'll be "here" next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll attend the next seven weeks of the Dare to Dance Again series
- I will explore the Directions Discipleship Course

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper

Week of April 04, 2021

Dare to Dance Again: Run the Race Worth Running

Scripture: John 20:1–10

Introduction: The Easter story is so familiar to most of us, that it hardly needs to be revisited again and again. And yet, though familiarity might not bring contempt, it does bring a sort of blindness to details tucked into the story itself – like a footrace between colleagues that ends with the winner losing, and the loser winning, but neither leaves with the prize. It begs the question: what races are you running and to what end?

1. Read John 20:1–2. Mary seems to have headed to the tomb without a viable plan. The last she'd seen it, the entrance had been blocked by a two ton stone and a pair of Roman soldiers. What do you think she expected to find and to do at the tomb?
2. Read 20:3–7. Why do you think “John” (the unnamed disciple) chose not to enter the tomb when he arrived? What compelled Peter to go right in?
3. Read 20:8–10. The passage says that John believed, but that they hadn't yet connected the dots about Jesus' resurrection. What do you think John believed about the missing body? What do you think Peter believed?
4. Dr. Bill said that even though Jesus had been resurrected, that “Easter” hadn't yet come for Mary, Peter, and John – that an empty tomb wasn't enough. Read the rest of John 20 to discover when “Easter” came to each of them.
5. One of the promises of the gospel is that each of us are offered our own Easter experience – that God has offered us new life. What was your life before your Easter moment? How did you discover your own “Easter” experience? What has changed since then?
6. Dr. Bill said that belief and conversion aren't the end goals of Christianity. If that's true, what is the end goal?
7. Read Philippians 2:12–13. What are you doing to “work out” your own salvation these days? In the words of Dr. Phil – “How's that working for you?”