

Sermon Starter – Jesus Becomes the Between

Jesus Removes the Barriers

Between

Jesus becomes the between, making anything between us and God disappear

In Acts, the expansive and inclusive covenants made in the Old Testament are now more fully understood through the lens of Jesus. Peter tells us that God shows no partiality and that every nation is included in God's promises.

In John, all the expected between of the stone and death are not there, and Mary is confused. She doesn't even recognize Jesus standing right in front of her and thinks he is the gardener. It is in the voice of Jesus speaking Mary's name that she finally recognizes him. We are so used to what comes in between that we fail to recognize the living Christ right in front of us. How often is Jesus Christ before us and with us, and yet we don't see him? Do we have ears to hear his voice?

Witnessing comes before testifying. Mary Magdalene witnesses Jesus' resurrection and is sent to go and tell the others, "I have seen the Lord." What have we witnessed of God's work through Jesus? How are we being invited to go and tell the good news to others, to testify to what we have seen and heard of the risen Christ today?

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