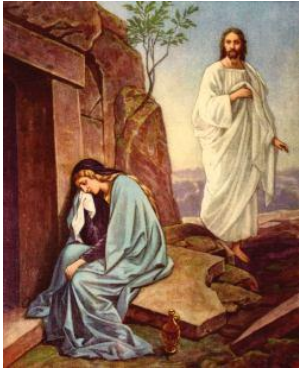


A Marriage Minute©

A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.



RESURRECTION AND MARRIAGE

“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection “ – Philippians 3:10

Jesus Christ was the only man to have ever predicted his own death and resurrection and live to tell about it! The very essence of our faith is wrapped up in this single event. But for the resurrection, Christianity would be just one more religion to help us live in peace and harmony. But if He really was raised from the dead, then He really is who He said He was –*God in the flesh!* Everything He said and taught would have to be true, including what he said about love and marriage. The apostle, Paul told us to have the mind of Christ, who did not count equality with God something to be grasped, but rather He emptied himself, surrendering all his rights, becoming a servant even to death on a cross, *and then* God gave Him the Name above every name. (Philippians 2). This is the key to knowing Christ and the power of His resurrection. It is surrendering our rights and “crucifying” the self-life. By its very definition there can be no resurrection unless there is *first* a death, -the crucifixion of the self-will.

This Resurrection season is a time to renew our identification with His crucifixion as we die to self, and any sense of entitlement. Then we can experience the power of the resurrection in our lives and in our marriages, and we can do it today!

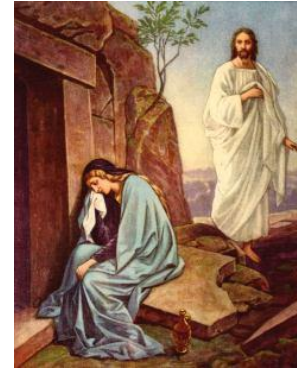
Question for the Both of Us: Do you believe I have crucified my self-will or do you think I still put my desires before God’s? Can you be specific?

Prayer for the Both of Us: Lord help us to know you and the power of your resurrection by first surrendering our own rights and desires, and crucifying the self-will so that the new man (or woman) will rise up to enjoy a new marriage that reflects the presence and power of God in our lives.

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