



*The Rock is a Youth
Ministry of Ascension
Lutheran Church*

Mary Encounters the Twilight Zone

Based on John 20:1-18

Rod Sirloin: **Matt S.**
Mary: **Peri**
Angel 1: **Joe**
Angel 2: **Zach**
Peter: **Toby**
John: **Nathan**
Jesus: **Oliver**

(Twilight Zone Music in background until Rod is done speaking.)

Rod: With a key to unlock a door to imagination. Beyond it is another dimension, a dimension of sight, a dimension of sound, a dimension of mind.

Rod: You're moving through a land of both shadow and substance, of both faith and ideas. *(Pause while Mary appears.)* Submitted for your approval. One young woman, Mary, about to take a journey into the supernatural, into a zone whose boundaries are that of our faith & imagination. Guiding Mary, her fisherman companions, and the rest of us through this wonderful journey is the very creator of the universe. Imagine, if you will, you, the audience, are inside a first century tomb where a great teacher was buried only two days earlier. Early on Sunday, while it was still dark, Mary went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.

(Twilight Zone music gets louder & stops.)

Mary: *(Mary, stands at entrance to tomb, in complete*

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shock.) Oh no. I must be lost again. This doesn't look right at all. What is this? Am I at the right tomb? But where is the body? I'm certain this was where Jesus' body was laid to rest. But I'm just as certain that there was a stone covering the tomb. *(Looks up and notices the stone in it's new location.)* There's the stone. How did it get up there? Who could have moved it there, and why? Something is very strange. I'd better find the others. Perhaps they'll know what is going on. *(Runs off stage.)*

Peter: *("Gone Fishing" music.)* So what do we do now? I was just so sure he was the Messiah. But the Messiah can't just die.

John: *(Carefully tying his jogging shoes.)* Ya, sure, you betcha.

Peter: I just don't know if I can just go back to fishing. I mean, he said we'd be fishers of men, right?

John: *(Ties a bandana around his head.)* Ya, sure, you betcha.

Mary: *(Running to men.)* Peter! John!

(John motions to Mary.)

Peter: Mary, you know John prefers to be called "The disciple that Jesus loved."

Mary: Yeah, whatever. Anyway, something terrible has happened.

Peter: And this is just now dawning on you, Mary? Three days after our Lord was murdered, and you're just now realizing something terrible has happened?

Mary: No, no, there's more.

Peter: Yeah, tell me about it. You know how hard it's gonna be to get back into the fishing business after a three-year break? We're talkin' new nets, new sails, new riggings, not to mention enduring the ridicule of

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all those guys down at Stumpy's Bait-n-Tackle Shop. Shorty and Stinky, are going to really be hard on us, right John?

John: Ya, sure, you betcha.

Mary: No. You don't get it, Peter! They've taken him.

Peter: Taken him? Who? Jesus? That's an understatement. Mary, we were all there. We all saw it. It's done. It's over. Even Jesus said "it is finished."

John: Ya, sure, you betcha.

Mary: Peter, listen! Someone has taken Jesus' body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!

Peter: Yeah right. Women! You sure you got the right tomb? It's dark, and one tomb looks like another, right?

Mary: Peter, I'm certain. Quick, go see for yourself.

Peter: All right, all right. *(To John.)* Hey, "The Disciple that Jesus Loved." You coming?

John: Ya, sure you betcha. *(John runs.)*

(Twilight Zone Music in background.)

Rod: So Peter and John started for the tomb. John--the better athlete--out-ran Peter and reached the tomb first. Scripture records that John stood at the entrance of the tomb...and saw the linen clothes lying there. The Greek word used for "saw" meant that John observed the facts just as Mary had related them.

John: *(Arrives at entrance of tomb and stands at the entrance in disbelief.)* Ya, sure, ya betcha.

Rod: Peter arrived next. As was typical with Peter, he ran past John and actually entered the tomb: the tomb

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of a dead man. Peter "saw" the head clothes all wrapped up, only without the head in them.

Rod: A different Greek word for "saw" in this case tells us that Peter not only observed the facts, but discerned them too. He realized he was face to face with the impossible.

Peter: *(Arrives and runs past John into tomb. He picks up the linen strips, then the folded head cloth.)* The head roll is still intact and yet the body is not here. This is impossible.

Rod: Finally, Scripture tells us that John also entered the Tomb and "saw" everything. Still a third different Greek word for "saw" in this case tells us that John not only observed the facts, and discerned that something impossible had occurred...but John went one step further and realized God had done the impossible. He believed.

(John enters the tomb and stands by Peter. Both gaze at the head-roll, illuminated by the strobe light. Music gets louder and stops.)

John & Peter: Ya, sure, ya betcha!! *(John & Peter slowly back out of the tomb.)*

(Two angels appear in the tomb, and Mary appears at the door.)

Angel 1: So I say to them, "I am Hans and I'm here to pump *(clap)*, him up *(points to heaven)*."

Angel 2: And they just freeze and pass out, like a couple of girly men?

Angel 1: Like they've seen an angel!

Angel 2: Yah. Imagine that? Think how we could have slayed them had we played our trumpets! *(Loud, manly laugh.)*

(Mary arrives at tomb and stops when she sees the angels.)

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Angel 1: Woman, why are you so sad?

Angel 2: Yah, why are you crying like a little girl?

Mary: They've taken my Lord away and I don't know where they put him.

(Angels look at each other, shrug & point to Jesus, now standing behind Mary.)

Jesus: *(Comes up beside Mary.)* Woman, why are you so sad? Who is it you are looking for?

Mary: Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I'll get him. *(Actors FREEZE.)*

(Twilight Zone Music in background until Rod is done speaking.)

Rod: We pause here. Mary, has been face to face with the same evidence that her friends, Peter & John, had seen. In addition, she has seen two angels from God. And now Mary has even conversed with the very man whose death she was mourning. And yet she is too distraught to understand what it all means. In a flash, Jesus mere utterance of her name turns her utter distress into impossible joy. As they say, "A person's name is to him or her the sweetest sound in any language."

(Twilight Zone music gets louder & stops.)

Jesus: Mary.

Mary: Teacher *(She bows to him. Praise Band immediately begins music.)*