

## ***“Exploding Hope”***

***Easter 2012***

**Ken Love, Lead Pastor**

2,000 years ago today, the world changed.

2,000 years later, for many, it is the same.

How can Easter become life and joy for you?

What happened on this day forms every other day for the rest of your days!!

1. The resurrection changes the way we make CHOICES

I Corinthians 15:31-34

2. The resurrection changes how we do SUFFERING

Revelation 1:17-18

3. The resurrection changes the way we do PARENTING

Ephesians 6:4

4. The resurrection changes the way we do DEATH

I Corinthians 15:16-19

# GraceRiver Church Small Group Study Guide

## “Exploding Hope” – April 8-13

John 20:1-18

What do you believe about UFOs? Have you ever seen any? Does the story about the resurrection seem like a UFO story to you?

What was special about Sunday for you? What part of the teaching would you most like to keep in your thinking so that it changes how you do life? What was most important to you from the Sunday teaching?

Read John 20:1-18 and jot down any observations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Mary saw Jesus' torturous death. What might be her emotional state two days later?

Why would she visit the tomb so early? What does the “other disciple” (like John) believe (verses 8-9)? Why might it be more likely for John to believe?

Why would Mary cry (and the disciples go to their homes)? Would you be more like Mary or the men? Why?

People often deal with loss of hope differently. How do you deal with it?

What finally breaks through her grief and confusion?

How does her return to the disciples in verse 18 contrast with verse 2? Why does she have passion in this moment? What does that tell you about why people are passionate about Jesus, or not so much?

What term does Jesus use for his disciples in verse 17? What is new in their relationship from now on?

How has Jesus spoken your name in times of grief? How did it affect you?

What does it mean that Jesus is your brother?

What have you learned/experienced this Easter season that has been really special to you?

How can you live Easter as more than a day, more like a destiny? What steps can you take to make that happen? Who can you pray for that needs a resurrection in any form (spiritual, emotional, physical)?