



DATE April 21, 2019

SPEAKER David Smith

TITLE The Turnaround Event

SERIES Jesus said and did a lot of memorable, meaningful, miraculous things during His life on earth, but it was one event – His Resurrection – that proved Jesus was who He said He was and gave us hope worth celebrating.

Pastor David told us that Easter, the resurrection of Jesus, is the ultimate ‘turnaround.’ We also find a reference to the concept of ‘turnaround’ in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

1. Peter denied Jesus, and God was still able to turn him around. He is not the only one in Scripture who had a radical turn around: David, Paul, and the people of Nineveh just to name a few. Is there anyone in your life or the Bible whose turnaround story specifically speaks to you?
2. What kind of turn around do you think happened in Mary when Jesus called her name?
3. What keeps you from having a relationship with God, or from the kind of relationship with Him that you desire? Is it because you struggle to believe that He is a personal God, or that He loves you, or that you are truly forgiven? Or something else?
4. What steps can we take to roll back the stone of pride, i.e. remove/reduce/control the pride in our lives?
5. The title of our new sermon series is “Prove It.” How did Jesus ‘prove it’ in the story of the Resurrection?
6. At times we can find ourselves, like Mary, so emotional and upset that we are unable to detect Jesus (whom we are looking for) until we realize He is literally right in front of us, calling our name. Are you hearing your name? Out of all the people, why is Jesus calling your name? How does he know what you are going through?
7. Which of the below concepts best describes your personal turnaround?
 - **STARTING** a relationship with Jesus. Discuss: a) Believing that God is personal. b) Knowing that I am loved by God (no fine print). c) Understanding that forgiveness is complete. d) Only happens by Grace.
 - **RE-COMMITTING** my life to Jesus. Discuss: a) Suffering is not evidence of God’s absence. b) Roll back your pride to live for Him. c) The more you experience Him, the less empty you feel. d) His life can undo the death we are experiencing.
8. If you have ever tried to talk to a non-believer about Jesus and hit a stumbling block, what did you say to him/her in order to ‘prove it?’ If you have never had this experience, what would you say to ‘prove it?’
9. Peter had an unbelievable journey from faith to denial and back to faith. How is it possible to walk with Jesus and then deny? More personally, in what ways have you had the same experiences in your life?

REMEMBER: Mary met Jesus at the tomb—we can too!