



### **Week 4: Facing The Future With Confidence**

This is the opportunity for your group will discover what God might be saying to you out of the weekend experience, and how you can respond through a group discussion.

#### Questions for discussion:

1. We all have them, times when what we're expecting or hoping for doesn't go according to plan. If anyone's willing, take a moment to share about one.

Abbie brought out three distinct "moves" or actions from Mary Magdalene, in the days between Jesus' death and resurrection that can help us face our future with confidence when the preferred future seems to fall apart. None are easy, a couple take some time, and some are more difficult than others – they are:

- 1) Giving ourselves space to grieve
- 2) Accepting what has changed
- 3) Letting go

2. Which of these three is most difficult for you and why?

In John 20:17, Jesus says to Mary, "Don't Cling To Me." It seems insensitive, but Jesus has a long game in mind so that Mary can lean in to what God has for her future.

3. We like to cling to the past. When things are disrupted, we like things to "go back" to normal or return to a previous "state" or "condition." Is there anything that you have been clinging on to for too long? Is it possible that this may be preventing you from stepping into The Future You?

4. Let's share some encouragement stories: think about a time when you felt like all plans were lost, but it turned into something new, life-giving, or unexpected for the current or The Future You? If you have a story, we'd love to hear it.

5. Think about the most faith-filled, confident version of yourself. What decisions would that version of yourself make this week?

#### Wrap-up

Be encouraged and take this picture from author, Suzanne Stabile with you this week:

*"The spiritual journey is like driving down a long, dark road. You can only see as far as the headlights...but they will get you the whole way home."*