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DO YOU REALLY KNOW ME?

THE HEALER

February 20 and 21, 2021

*Today we begin a six-week reading of Mark 1-11. This week in Mark 1-2 Jesus reveals himself as the Healer.
He uses the pain in the world around him to bring both physical and spiritual healing.*

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

**Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle;
Sing the ending of the fray.
Now above the cross, the trophy,
Sound the loud triumphant lay.
Tell how Christ, the world's Redeemer,
As a victim won the day.**

**Tell how, when at length the fullness
Of th' appointed time was come,
He, the Word, was born of woman,
Left for us his Father's home,
Blazed the path of true obedience,
Shone as light amidst the gloom.**

**Thus, with thirty years accomplished,
He went forth from Nazareth,
Destined, dedicated, willing,
Did his work and met his death;
Like a lamb he humbly yielded
On the cross his dying breath.**

M In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

M Sisters and brothers in Christ, we live in a world that is held in bondage to sin and death. We have experienced the truth of it in our own lives. The tempter is always misleading us—and our sinful natures are only too ready to give in.

C **Today, however, we celebrate the victory of our Lord Jesus over the tempter.**

M Because Jesus won the victory, we are able to come before God in faith and freedom, acknowledging our sin and trusting that through Jesus Christ our Lord we, too, enjoy victory over the tempter and all he stands for.

All **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*



M As our Substitute and Savior, our Lord Jesus said a determined 'No' to self and a dedicated 'Yes' to his Father's saving will. He won the victory over the tempter and moved steadfastly to the cross where he paid the price for all sin for all time. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

HYMN

**Faithful cross, true sign of triumph,
Be for all the noblest tree;
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit your equal be,
Symbol of the world's redemption,
For your burden makes us free.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Almighty God, the darkness deepens. The ancient foe exploits means new and old to trick us with his cunning deceit and his empty promises.

C **We, like Old Testament Israel, wander through the wilderness.**

M Guard us this Lent, O God. Reach out to help us with your strong right hand. Defend us against all that threatens our life in Christ.

C **Guide us with your Word. Keep us steadfast in your will.**

M When we grow weak, encourage us.

C **When we fall, raise us up.**

M We pray through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now, now and forever

C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

2 Kings 5:1-15

The LORD uses pain to bring spiritual and eternal healing to Naaman.

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

²Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

⁴Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. ⁵"By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. ⁶The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

⁷As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

⁸When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

¹¹But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

¹³Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Praise the one who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the one who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands
With the Father's word of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the one who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the one who makes us one.

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ²They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ³Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? ⁹Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the man, ¹¹"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ¹²He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

CONFESSION OF FAITH

CONFESSION FROM LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM

First: What is Confession?

Confession has two parts. The one is that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution or forgiveness from the confessor as from God himself, not doubting but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven.

Second: What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer. But before our confessor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Third: How can we recognize these sins?

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, employer or employee? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you hurt anyone by word or deed? Have you been dishonest, careless, wasteful, or done other wrong?

Fourth: How will the confessor assure a penitent sinner of forgiveness?

He will say, "By the authority of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

C **We confess that without your love we are lost.**

M Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

C **Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

M Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

C **By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

M Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

C **Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

M Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

C **Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

There is a fountain filled with blood
Immanuel was slain
And sinners who are washed therein
Lose ev'ry guilty stain,
Lose ev'ry guilty stain.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood
Shall never lose its pow'r
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved and sin no more,
Be saved and sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme
And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of February 22, 2021

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Main Church)
TUE	9:30 am	Ministry Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Main Church)
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Classes
	6:00 pm	Divorce Care (School Classroom 8)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise Bible Study (online)</i>
WED	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	3:30 pm	Lenten Worship Service
	7:00 pm	Lenten Worship Service
THURS	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:00 pm	Anxiety/Depression/Suicide Information Session (Main Church)
	6:30 pm	Pickleball (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Revelation Bible Study (online)
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Kids Club
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion

LOVE THE FAMILY CHURCH – BE A MENTOR

We are seeking couples who have been married for at least ten years and who would enjoy mentoring a newly married couple. Couples will be asked to commit to five monthly meetings. Materials will be provided! Register your interest on the Connection Card or contact Meta Rosenberg at mtkolander@gmail.com or (920) 284-0658.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FUNERAL

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, called home to heaven the soul of Dennis Miller on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Funeral arrangements are pending at this time. May our God of all peace and comfort be with the Millers and their loved ones today and always.

HOSPITALIZED

Nancy Rindt (Linden Grove New Berlin) and Dorrette Probst and Dolores Witte (home hospice care).

ATTENDANCE

The following attended last weekend's services: 101 on Saturday, 57 on Sunday 7:45 am, 105 on Sunday 9:15 am, 115 at The Bridge, 30 on Sunday 10:45 am, and 235 on Ash Wednesday 3:30 pm and 120 on Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm.

DO YOU REALLY KNOW ME?

"Who do you say I am?" (Mark 8:30) Jesus asked his disciples that critical question just six months before his crucifixion.

Over the six weeks of the Lenten season, we will study the Gospel of Mark to answer that critical question anew. On the weekends, we will work our way through Mark 1-11. During our Wednesday meditations, we will focus on Jesus' suffering in the last chapters of Mark.

The 3:30 service will include a Children's Message as part of our on-going effort to welcome families back into regular in-person worship.



Wednesday, February 24

Wednesday, March 3

Wednesday, March 10

Weekends

February 28

March 7

March 14

Patient

Courageous

Irreproachable

Mark 14:26-42

Mark 14:43-65

Mark 14:66-15:15

The Teacher

God in Flesh

The Compassionate

Mark 3-4

Mark 5-6

Mark 7-8

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE CLASS

Pastor Nate Strobel is currently leading our new member Bible study—*Following the Promise*— on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm – online only. If you miss a class, watch it later on YouTube. Enjoy camaraderie with Pastor Nate while you learn the basics of what the Bible teaches. You will track the promises of the Savior from the Garden of Eden down to your own heart and life.

ONLINE STUDY OF REVELATION

The next Revelation Study with Pastor Pete is Thursday, February 25, at 7:00 pm. Register your interest on the Connection Card or email him at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org.

ST. PAUL'S HAS AN APP!

Download our new app, **St. Paul's Muskego**. You can find it on Google Play or on the Apple App Store. You'll be able to watch Pastor Pete's video messages, read his blog, watch livestream services, easily give your offering, and so much more! It's a great way to simplify your life and access what you need from your church. If you need help using the app, contact Tammy Miller at 414-422-0320, ext. 111, or tmiller@stpaulmuskego.org.

THE IMPORTANCE OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Currently we have about 50% of our pre-COVID-19 in-person worship attendance and about 500 views of our online worship opportunities each week.

For some, online worship is the best solution

- for health reasons,
- because of distance,
- to overcome scheduling conflicts, or
- because an individual is able to focus better using an online setting.

Parents have shared with us how online worship gives them a chance to bond in worship and model worship with their children in the intimacy of their home, where immediate discussion can take place. We are extremely thankful for the online worship ministry that has developed here at St. Paul's.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

At a recent discussion among our teachers, pastors, staff ministers, and office team, we recognized a number of reasons to encourage in-person worship.

- Worshipping with fellow Christians in one room is a foretaste of the joy of the communion of saints gathering in heaven.
- The reception of the Lord's Supper and the celebration of baptisms in worship.
- The friendships that are formed and strengthened before and after worship.
- The encouragement that friends, young and old, give to each other as they worship together.
- The structure and accountability that helps build a life-long pattern of regular worship.
- The role modelling that goes on as we watch others in worship and learn from them. For example, a child whose parents may not sing at home can be encouraged to join in singing praises by hearing and seeing other worshippers singing.

REGAINING A PATTERN OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP

To help people feel comfortable in regaining a pattern of in-person worship:

- We will continue our **five weekend worship services**, even though some services have very low attendance. For anyone desiring more social distancing we recommend the Sunday 7:45 and 10:45 am services because of the lower attendance.
- We will offer **two Wednesday Lenten services at 3:30 and 7:00 pm**. The **3:30 pm service will include a Children's Message** by Pastor Pete in addition to the message from a guest preacher.
- **We will add Easter Services**. All services in the sanctuary will be identical: Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 6:30; 7:45; 9:15, and 10:45 am. At The Bridge, the Easter schedule will be 9:00 and 10:30 am.
- We will provide **more outdoor worship services** on June 6, July 4, August 1, and September 12. The concerns about COVID-19 will make regular, in-person worship for many people unlikely until the pandemic is past. At the same time, we will do all we can to welcome all who are ready to return.

LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

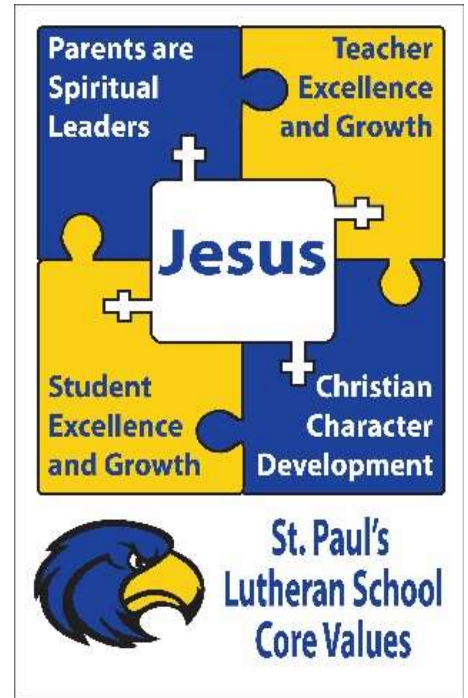
APPRECIATING OUR LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Our Lutheran schools are treasured places...because Jesus is there. Lutheran Schools Week takes time to celebrate that – the joy and impact of Christ on our kids and families. Most parents realize it is really hard to raise children, have a successful marriage, and build a Christian home in today’s culture that is abandoning a conservative, Biblical worldview at an alarming rate. We love being a congregation that partners with parents through our school to help build stronger Christian families!

OUR SCHOOL’S ROLE IN BUILDING CHRISTIAN FAMILIES

“We are so glad we became part of the St. Paul’s family. Such an important foundation especially in these unfortunate times. Our kids thrived at times and survived at others but all because of the amazing faith the staff has. Our children were filled with the Word and love instead of more fear and anxiety from worldly views” (A new St. Paul’s school family).

We at St. Paul’s want to bless more families in this way. We are so thankful that at this point we already have 95% re-enrollment for next year, which is far higher at this point than ever!



ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN SCHOOL OFFERS...

- Assistance to build a strong Christian family
- An amazing teaching staff leading your kids
- Teaching and learning from a conservative, biblical worldview
- Christian-centered character development and mentoring
- 75% of students scoring advanced in reading, math, and language
- Flexible 3K & 4K programs
- Before and after school care
- Generous tuition assistance—over \$600,000 in financial aid given each year
- Participation in the Milwaukee and Wisconsin Parental School Choice programs

LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

NEW SCHOOL CHOICE INFORMATION FOR 2021-2022

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)

Family Size	Single Parent Income Limit	Married Parents Income Limit
3	\$47,784	\$54,784
4	\$57,640	\$64,640
5	\$67,496	\$74,496
6	\$77,352	\$84,352

*Add \$9,856 for each additional family member

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP)

Family Size	Single Parent Income Limit	Married Parents Income Limit
3	\$65,160	\$72,160
4	\$78,600	\$85,600
5	\$92,040	\$99,040
6	\$105,480	\$112,480

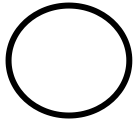
*Add \$13,440 for each additional family member

MORE INFORMATION?

Contact Principal Fitzsimmons at sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 118, for more information about our school, the Parental Choice Programs, and/or to schedule a tour.

KIDS CLUB'S ROLE IN BUILDING CHRISTIAN FAMILIES

Each Sunday at 9:15 am we partner with parents through our Kids Club program for children 3K – 6th grade. We also provide a weekly Family Lesson for parents to use at home. For more information contact Dr. Nelson at jnelson@stpmuskego.org or call (414) 422-0320, ext. 145.



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Begin with prayer for those who are in pain (physical, emotional, spiritual) in your circle of friends.
2. **The Power of Pain:** Read 2 Kings 5:1-15.
 - a. What pain had the young Israelite girl experienced? How did God use that pain for his good purposes?
 - b. What pain did King Joram of Israel experience (vv.7-8)? What might have been God's purpose in that pain?
 - c. Naaman's pain of leprosy brought him into contact with the power and love of the God of Israel. What almost kept Naaman from experiencing the Lord's healing? Is there a lesson for us in Naaman's initial response and his change of mind?
3. **The Hope of Healing:** The Gospel of Mark is generally considered to be the Gospel of the Apostle Peter. Since we will be reading from the Gospel of Mark during Lent, let's trace Mark's ministry.
 - a. Acts 12:11-12 – John Mark lives with his mother in Jerusalem. She is an early follower of Jesus.
 - b. Acts 12:25 – Paul and Barnabas take John Mark, who is Barnabas' cousin (Colossians 4:10), with them to Antioch.
 - c. Acts 15:36-40 – We learn that John Mark went with Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey but deserted them. Paul does not want to take him on his second missionary journey.
 - d. 2 Timothy 4:11 – In his final imprisonment, Paul asks Timothy to bring Mark with him.
 - e. 1 Peter 5:13 – Mark is present with the Apostle Peter.
 - f. 2 Peter 1:12-15 – Peter promises to make sure that his eyewitness testimony is preserved.

How does Mark's life and ministry give you hope of healing as you think back over some of your failures of the past?

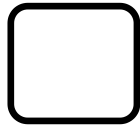
4. **The Gavel of Guilt:** We have the authority to silence the gavel of guilt. Read together and discuss the following section of Luther's Small Catechism.

First: What is the use of the Keys?

The use of the Keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth, to forgive the sins of penitent sinners but to refuse forgiveness to the impenitent as long as they do not repent.

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelist John writes in chapter 20, "Jesus breathed on his disciples and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'"



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

Do You Really Know Me?

The Healer

Which is easier to say?



I. The Power of Pain (Mark 2:1-4)

- a. Notice the pain present in Mark 1
 - i. Mark 1:23 _____
 - ii. Mark 1:31 _____
 - iii. Mark 1:33 _____
 - iv. Mark 1:40 _____
- b. Faith sees pain as an invitation
 - i. Mark 1:27-28 The news s _____
 - ii. Mark 1:43 The people came to him from e _____

2. The Gavel of Guilt (Mark 2:5-7)

- a. Pain magnifies g _____
- b. Who can forgive sins but God alone? (Matthew 16:19; John 20:23)

3. The Healing of Hope (Mark 2:8-12)

- a. Which is easier to say?
 - i. "Your sins are forgiven" are easier for a h _____ to say.
 - ii. "Get up and walk" are easier for _____ to say.
- b. Power and l _____ provide healing

My Next Steps

- **See Jesus' Power to Heal.** Read Mark 1-2 over the next week. If there is more than one in your household, try reading it together, about 12 verses per day.
- **Silence the Gavel of Guilt.** Memorize John 20:23 to remember that Jesus has given you the authority to forgive. "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."
- **Offer the Healing of Hope:** Who in your circle of friends is suffering pain of some kind? How might you be able to speak hope in Jesus' power and love into their lives?