

After much prayer and scripture study, this is a script I wrote for the Relief Society sisters to present during 3rd hour combined RS/Priesthood meeting on Easter (since it is a 5th Sunday.) The speaking roles will be interspersed with hymns, and videos from the New Testament, which are found at www.mormonchannel.org . (There are two choices for the videos because some people thought the first videos to be too hard to watch. You choose which video fits best for your group.) The roles will be played by the RS presidency and teachers. Feel free to use it in your wards, but please give credit to me as the author. I am posting this now (before my ward has seen it presented) in case anyone wants to use it on Easter. Again, please credit the author if you choose to use this. Enjoy- Dede Bessey

(Role) Women who came from Galilee

Woman 1: There were many who would follow our Lord, and many of us came with Him from Galilee.

Woman 2: We followed that we might learn, we followed that He might lead.

Woman 1: There are many accounts of the events that transpired at the crucifixion of our Lord, as many thoughts as there were witnesses. Some of us were close to our Redeemer, while others stayed back.

Woman 2: All accounts are the same, yet all are very different. These are some of the stories of the Woman at Calvary.

Congregational Hymn: "There Is A Green Hill Far Away" Hymn 194

(Role) Pontius Pilate's wife

I had had a dream, and it was troublesome to me. I had heard tell of this man. This, the King of the Jews, the son of God. In my heart, I believed Him to be true. I heard my husband ask of Him many things, but did not receive an answer. I wanted Him to answer by word or deed and show His true nature. When no answer was received, my husband went to his judgement seat. I sent unto him, saying, "Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him." My husband is a powerful man, and I do not believe him to be wicked. He asked the multitude what should be done with this Jesus, who is the Christ. Again and again the

answer was the same. Finally, what else could be done? “He took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.” In the days that followed we did discuss much of the teachings of this man, this Christ. I believe Him to truly be the King of the Jews. I would that I might follow His commands and be counted as His. Amen.

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OR <http://www.mormonchannel.org/bible-videos?v=1655319146001>

(Role) Mary the wife of Cleophas (who was probably Joseph's brother)

There was much that was witnessed on the day they crucified our Lord. I do not make a full account of all that was said and done. I only say this; do not despair. He who did atone for the sins of all in Gethsemane is not gone. There were many emotions that day. I saw hatred, I saw spite, I saw weakness, greed, and malice. From others I saw grief, sadness, and sorrow. And yet from Him who died on Calvary I saw forgiveness, compassion, even love and understanding. I heard Him cry out in pain, and I also heard Him ask the Father to forgive. I cannot now tell of all the things that happened there, but I can say that He loves us. He did this thing for us, that we might also love. I know this much is true. Amen.

(Role) Salome, The mother of Zebedee's sons

I am Salome, wife of Zebedee, mother of his sons. I first came to know Him that is the Christ as I listened to a sermon He gave. He spoke of laborers in a vineyard, and how those who had been hired at the eleventh hour earned the same as those who had labored since the morning time. I came to understand that the last shall be first, and that while many are called, few should be chosen. I pondered this lesson for many moments, and then I was able to speak to that gentle teacher. I knew exactly what I would ask of Him. When He asked me what it was that I wilt of Him, I requested He “Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.” I wanted my sons to know this Man, that they might be like Him. I knew that they could learn much and help many. He responded kindly, saying; “To sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for

whom it is prepared of my Father.” He gave me to understand that the Father had another calling for my sons. My sons, James and John, did follow Him. I came up to Calvary to comfort my sons, as they were not allowed to stand at the cross. I was able to look to Him that is the Christ to express the gratitude of a mother to Him that saved my children. He helped my precious sons to know of the Father, to know of His love, and gave them the authority to teach others of such. I will always remember Him. May you come to know Him, may you choose His righteous path. Amen.

Solo: "[I Have Not Seen, Yet I Believe](http://www.defordmusic.com)" (Sally DeFord www.defordmusic.com)

(Role) Mary, the mother of Jesus

Once, the angel told me to fear not, that the Lord was with me. And, now, I must be with Him. This is my beautiful baby whom I felt stir within my womb, this is my wise young man who always did as He knew He should, this is my compassionate, steadfast son. I have loved Him from the moment I first knew that He should be placed in my belly. I was there for the first time He walked, when He first said “Mother”, when He carved His first block of wood. And now, I must be with Him in His sorrow, in His agony, in His death. I knew. I knew that he would be crucified for the redemption of all men. He told me that I should not grieve, that He was going about His Father’s work and that He would always be with me. But, watching Him grow, at times it was easy to forget. No mother should ever have to witness the things that I have seen, and yet, how could I stay away? I had been with Him from the beginning, and with Him I would remain. How could they have done this to Him? I stood at His feet, I told Him that I love Him, I tried to be strong for Him. There are many precious moments a mother can recall with Her firstborn son. And, His story is more remarkable than any other. He spent many days teaching, setting an example. He blessed all who knew Him, all who knew of Him. He ever invited those who would to follow Him. I never heard Him ask anything but love and obedience in return for the blessings He freely gave. When He looked down from His cross, He did speak unto me. He asked His beloved disciple, His friend to look after His mother, that I might have comfort in the times to come. I heard Him say in prayer, in relief “It is finished.” After several terrible minutes, His side was again

pierced with a spear. My heart did truly break. I know not of the agonies He was forced to bear. And yet, I could not leave Him. I could not look away. I did not see the man, the thorny crown upon His head, the nails he bore. I did not see these things, for I was picturing my perfect babe. All His life, there were those who sought to take Him from me. There was none who could find fault with Him, and yet they yelled "Crucify Him." Following that terrible space of hours, I went with Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, My sister, and the others to the tomb, even after I went home to ponder of all these things. In the space that followed I learned that the end is yet the beginning. He had not yet taught all that He was sent to teach. He came to show us once more that He is the Light and the way. And after a space of forty days, He did again ascend unto His Father. I was able to say goodbye to Him. His love transcends, His message lives on. His goodness is not forgotten, nor is His love. He has left this mortal sphere, but He is not dead. He is risen! He is Lord. He is the Christ. His mother did witness these things. Amen.

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OR <http://www.mormonchannel.org/bible-videos?v=1785512651001>

(Role) Mary the mother of James and Joses

I am also Mary. Mary, who is the mother of James and Joses. Not much else is known of me, and that is as it should be. My story is not of consequence, except that I was there. I saw the Lord Jesus as He hung on His cross. I heard the man next to him, who was known to be a thief speak to Him that would atone for the sins of man. In that moment many of us witnessed an exchange most beautiful. The thief asked for mercy, and it was given, immediately and without reservation. Lord Jesus told this broken man, this self condemning criminal that they would be together that very day in paradise. There was no mocking in His tone, there was no hatred in His eyes. He offered salvation to him that would ask for it. That is still true. He offers salvation, if we would ask for it. Lord Jesus taught me many things, but none so important as this. My story does not matter, for all that I know, all that I have done, all that I have witnessed culminates in this one truth. Lord Jesus would give His life, that we

may live. He has nothing but love for those who would seek it. In His name, Amen.

(Role) An un-named sister of Jesus' mother

I can not say more than has been said. I went with my sister to Calvary. I held her hand while they crucified her son. I enveloped her in my arms when she had not the strength to stand alone. I felt the earth shake and tremble, but it paled in comparison to the sobs that wracked her frame. I did not know what else to do but to stand steadfast for my sister. Let that be my legacy, let the generations yet to come follow that example. Succor the weary, stand with those who can not stand alone, work for one purpose. Do not let tragedy cause you to turn against one another. I do not leave my name, for my name is not my purpose. My purpose is to teach, as He has taught me. For where there are many, the burden is shared and lessened. Amen

View Video: <http://www.mormonchannel.org/bible-videos?v=1537265083001>
OR <http://www.mormonchannel.org/bible-videos?v=1920388911001>

(Role) Mary Magdalene

My name is Mary, sometimes I am referred to as Mary of Magdala, or the Magdalene. Much has been said about me. Who I am, who I was to Jesus whom we call the Christ. It suffices me to say that He is my friend, my teacher, my Lord. I know Him well. You may know that He healed my infirmities, but He also healed my heart. I was filled with sorrow and He showed me love. I will speak of that day, that terrible day. I followed Jesus, that is the Christ, as he taught, but that day I followed Him to Calvary. I was allowed to stand at the base of cross, because as a woman, I was not thought to be a danger. I was able to see the despicable things that were done to Him that would die to be our Savior. I was able to hear His words. I looked up into His eyes and saw the agony, the sorrow, and the love. I can not express adequately with words the love. It was unwavering, unceasing, and all encompassing. I heard Him whisper "forgive them..." My fists clenched in anger, how could they? Didn't they hear Him offering salvation? My bowels trembled with grief. Didn't they see Him weeping with compassion? My eyes wept, my heart was broken. And then, it was done.

We were allowed to stay with Him as he was prepared for burial. In the sepulchre, many emotions flooded my thoughts. I had followed Him in life, and I would not cease to do so in death. His message must continue. His gospel must be taught. His love must be shared. I could not bring myself to leave Him. Many times that day I returned to His tomb. I asked The Father to give me the strength to forgive, to love, to teach. I asked that the Christ be relieved of the agony that He had suffered in His final moments, and that He would know that His disciple, his friend, was there. On the third day, I came to find the stone rolled away. I entered into the sepulchre, to find it empty. I ran to find Peter and the other disciples, and I told them that the body of the Lord had been taken. Peter and the other disciples left me again, and overcome with grief anew, I wept. A man spoke gently, almost whispering to me, saying; "Woman, why weepest thou?" All I was able to reply was that they had taken my Lord and I knew not where He had been laid. After a moment, the man quietly said my name, "Mary..." and I knew Him to be Jesus, the very Christ, returned again. I turned to Him, and he bade me not to embrace Him. He told me that He had yet to return to His Father. He spoke to me of many other things that I will hold sacred in my heart and not speak of here. After a time, I was able to find the others and share the glorious news of a resurrected Christ with them. He lives! He yet lives, and His love and compassion live with Him. Where there was sorrow, there is peace. I speak of things I know to be true. Amen.

Congregational Hymn: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" Hymn 200