

## Living the Resurrection

Retreat Section V is all about ... *“my” becoming more like Jesus in His Resurrection*. So as I meditate in these final hours of the retreat, I ask the Holy Spirit to paint for me that “picture” of how I might become *like that* in the years ahead. By grace ... I want to have incorporated in my future life all that I see in Jesus in His Resurrection.

Ignatius often suggests we “get into” the Scriptures we are meditating on via the use of our imaginations. His point was that the Scriptures themselves are often mere sketches of the stories they represent (ie: serious abridgments, summaries, etc. of all what took place). He believed that when we *allow for it* the Holy Spirit will gladly fill in the gaps for us ... adding thereto a plethora of other details for us to consider ... details not recorded in the Scripture accounts.

Importantly Ignatius never considered any such “added” material to have Biblical authority (ie: to be taught, written about, etc.). Rather he believed it to be a method whereby we’d be able to utilize our God-given imagination to assist us in understanding the Scriptures better.

In this Exercise we’ll employ that method as we look further into various Scriptures regarding the Resurrection.

In John 20 and 21 we find a variety of Resurrection stories to consider:

ACT I	John 20: 1-9	The empty tomb
ACT II	John 20: 10-18	Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene
ACT III	John 20: 19-23	Jesus appears to His disciples
ACT IV	John 20: 24-31	Jesus appears to Thomas
ACT V	John 21: 1-14	Jesus and the catch of fish
ACT VI	John 21: 15-25	Jesus reinstates Peter

So now, imagine yourself as being one of the performers in a theatre with the production being the above six ACTS (or if you'd rather, you could simply be an onlooker, or a recorder of what you see, etc.). Determine which of the above ACTS you'd like to play a part in (or be an observer or recorder of). [Choose one or more ... or all of them.] If as a "performer" then select which part (person) you'd most like to play.

Then find a theatre for the performances (your own private spot ... indoors or out ... your retreat site possibly, etc.)..

Then let the curtain rise. **Action!**

[Slowly move through the story utilizing the Scriptures above while, importantly, expanding the dialogue, the setting, etc., etc. Get inside the characters:

what are they thinking ?  
why do they say what they do ?  
why do they act the way they do ?  
why do they not say or do this or that ?

If you are a performer make these questions personal to your character.

Take your time.

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Keep your journal handy. Remember that in Section V you're looking for the Lord to reveal to you that "picture" of your own future going forward. As such our constant questions ought to be:

"Lord, what here speaks of the "who"  
I'm to become in the years ahead?"

"What picture of myself going forward  
are You trying to portray for me?"

