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MARK 16:1-16,19-20

## THE RISEN SAVIOR



### THIS WEEK'S focus

Life would be so much simpler if everyone was honest all of the time, but unfortunately, that isn't the case. Since we know that people lie sometimes, most of us struggle to believe things that sound impossible. The more we trust the teller, the easier it is to believe, but some things are just too fantastic to believe without solid proof. We want to see, hear, and touch for ourselves. Today we'll read that after Jesus's death and burial, a group of women shared the best news anyone had ever heard; however, most of the people they told didn't believe them. They wanted proof. We'll review the facts ourselves and discover that Jesus really is alive!



### CENTRAL truth

Jesus is alive, and He calls us to share the good news.



EXPLORE

# scripture

MARK 16:1-16,19-20

## MARK 16:1-4

**1** When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they could go and anoint him.

**2** Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they went to the tomb at sunrise.

**3** They were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone from the entrance to the tomb for us?” **4** Looking up, they noticed that

the stone — which was very large — had been rolled away.

## MARK 16:5-8

**5** When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side; they were alarmed. **6** “Don’t be alarmed,” he told them. “You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they

put him. **7** But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you to Galilee; you will see him there just as he told you.’” **8** They went out and ran from the tomb, because trembling and astonishment overwhelmed them. And they said nothing to anyone, since they were afraid.

## MARK 16:9-16,19-20

**9** Early on the first day of the week, after he had risen, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

**10** She went and reported to those who had been with him, as they were mourning and weeping.

**11** Yet, when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe it.

**12** After this, he appeared in a different form to two of them walking on their way into the country. **13** And they went and reported it to the rest, who did not believe them either.

**14** Later he appeared to the Eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table. He rebuked

their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who saw him after he had risen. **15** Then he said to them, “Go

into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. **16** Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. . . .

**19** So the Lord Jesus, after speaking to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. **20** And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word

by the accompanying signs.

# DAILY devotions

## MEMORIZE MARK 16:6

### 7 ARROWS FOR BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



What does this passage tell us about humans?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?



What does this passage demand of me?

day 1

# MARK 16:1-4

## DWELL

If Jesus's disciples had gone with the women to the tomb, they would have seen for themselves that what they women said was true: Jesus really had risen from the dead. If they had put forth as much effort as the women to show love and devotion to Jesus, or even shown concern for the needs of their friends, they wouldn't have had to settle for a second-hand account. The best way to see God at work is to stay busy doing God's work.



What can you tell about these women from this passage? Which of their characteristics could you imitate?

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How can you make sure you're in the right place at the right time to see God work?

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## MEMORIZE

Write Mark 16:6 on a few sticky notes, and put the notes in places you will see them throughout the day. When you see one, stop and read it out loud.

## PRAY

Thank God for the opportunity to serve Him. Thank Him for the example of the women in this story, who were just doing the next right thing. Ask God to show you how you can help your friends.

day 2

# MARK 16:5-8

## DWELL

The angel showed compassion and understanding when he delivered the news of Jesus's resurrection. He acknowledged the women's feelings, encouraged them, let them examine the evidence, and told them what to do next. The women were still terrified, but they received the information and acted on it when they had calmed down. We would do well to remember the angel's approach when talking about Jesus with people who don't know Him yet.

← Why do you think God sent an angel to explain why Jesus wasn't in the tomb?

↓ The women were scared, but they stayed long enough to listen to what the angel had to say. What can you learn from their example?

## MEMORIZE

Write down Mark 16:6 in a journal or on a note card, and circle any words that feel important. Look at just those words for a few moments, then close your eyes and say them. When you can get them all right without looking, try doing the same thing with the whole verse.

## PRAY

Thank God for meeting you right where you are and teaching you truth in a way you can comprehend. Thank Him for His patience with you.

day 3

# JOHN 20:10-17

## DWELL

The disciples had watched Jesus do a lot of amazing things, but none of them had been touched by a miracle in quite the same way that Mary Magdalene had: Jesus had "driven seven demons" out of her (see Mark 16:9). The loyalty this inspired kept her at the tomb, the last place anyone knew her Savior had been. As a result, she was the first person to see Jesus. Most of us would like to forget about the hard stuff we've been through, but the memories have value. They remind us of our need for a Savior and make us watchful for His presence and activity.

← Why do you think Jesus warned Mary to not "cling" to Him?

↓ When was the last time you heard God's voice speaking directly to you? Why do you suppose that is?

## MEMORIZE

See how much of Mark 16:6 you can remember by writing it down without looking. Check your work. Add or change as necessary and study it. Practice doing this throughout the week until you get it!

## PRAY

Thank God for sending Jesus to deliver us from sin and redeem our darkest moments. Ask Him to use your bad memories for good and promise to let Him. Ask Him to speak to your heart today.

day 4

# LUKE 24:25-32

## DWELL

Jesus's followers had a lot on their minds after His crucifixion. Two of them were so busy trying to work it all out and come to a conclusion on their own that they failed to recognize Jesus's voice. When they finally realized who was talking to them, they were surprised to discover they had known it was Him all along. It's good to process with friends, but Jesus's voice is the first voice we should listen to. If we don't hear Him, it could be because we haven't been paying attention.



What did the men in this story do right?  
What can you learn from their example?



Jesus used Scripture to teach these men.  
How has God used Scripture to speak to you?

## MEMORIZE

Try singing Mark 16:6 to the tune of a song you know well. Practice singing the verse to yourself as best as you can throughout the week.

## PRAY

Thank God for speaking to you using language you can understand. Ask Him to teach you how to hear His voice.

day 5

# MARK 16:14-16, 19-20

## DWELL

If anyone should have believed Jesus was alive, the eleven should have! Jesus had told them exactly what to expect. Even so, He still didn't count them out. Instead, He gave them an important job: preach the gospel and help those who put their faith in that gospel take next steps. Their assignment is our assignment. We may make mistakes sometimes, but Jesus still expects us to obey. Thankfully, He doesn't expect us to do it alone. He's ready and willing to help, but we have to act to experience it.



What does Jesus expect of those who follow Him?



What can you do this week to obey Jesus's instructions in verse 15?

## MEMORIZE

Try reciting Mark 16:6 from memory. Ask a friend or family member to help you by reminding you of any words you've forgotten.

## PRAY

Thank God for inviting you to participate in His plan to redeem the world even though you make mistakes. Ask Him to move in hearts when you share the gospel. Ask Him to give your listeners the faith to believe.