



The Stone Had Been Rolled Away - Mark 16:1-8
Pastor David Robinson
April 12, 2020

DISCUSSION SHEET

1. What special traditions, foods or memories come to mind when you think of celebrating Easter? What makes them significant?

Sermon Discussion:

1. What aspects of vv. 1-8 highlight the women's expectations and mindset as they go to the tomb early Sunday morning?
2. Why do you think the stone had been rolled away?
3. After reading the words of the angel in vv. 6-7, discuss together the details you notice that seem significant.
4. In the earliest manuscripts, Mark's Gospel ends with v. 8. Why do you think Mark ended it there? How does the ending affect and impact the reader?

Practical Application:

1. Why do you think God chose trembling, astonished, fearful women to be the first to know the truth of the resurrection?
2. How can we help each other keep the reality of Jesus' death and resurrection fresh? What helps you resist becoming too familiar?
3. Suppose a friend expressed doubt about Jesus' resurrection, how would you respond? Work through different scenarios together.
4. Using 1Corinthians 2:8-9 and 2Corinthians 4:16-18 as examples, how can Jesus' resurrection change our reactions to life's problems?
5. Describe your feelings/reactions when you read notes in your Bible like: *The earliest manuscripts and some other ancient manuscripts do not have verses 9-20.*

You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified.
He has risen! He is not here.
(Mark 16:6)



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Personal Reflection:

1. As you reflect on Jesus' death and resurrection, are there details that you find hard to believe? What is the greatest challenge?
2. The rolling away of the stone can summarize the gospel message: God did what we couldn't. Spend some time considering how that applies to you and your challenges and life.
3. Pastor David quoted Joni Eareckson Tada: "If the problem side of the scale seem heavy then focus your faith on the glory-side." How do you respond? How does Joni's personal situation change the impact of her quote?
4. What difference does it make to you that the resurrection story is filled with messy, broken people who are just like us? Spend some time in prayer as you meditate on God's grace.

GUIDE

1. The Discussion Sheet is intended to help us process Pastor David's sermon and to apply it in various ways to our lives. The questions will be most beneficial when you can discuss your answers and ideas with other believers. ***The personal reflection questions are not intended for group discussion.***
2. When biblical events are familiar, we can become less sensitive to their content. Pray that God will deepen your perception and guide your thoughts as you read and study.
3. Give your best answer to each question. When appropriate, read the verses or passage again, then consider other passages as well. At times, you will want to consult a commentary or Google the answer!
4. Remember God's Word is his chosen way to speak to us, to change us and to teach us. And he has designed this to happen in the context of community. When we cannot meet in person, we can meet in other creative ways. Consider how you can meet with others to build each other up! :)