



# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

## WEEK 44: THE RESURRECTION

Text: Mark 16:1-8

### Introduction

Everything that Christians believe rises and falls on the claim of this week's text. We have spent a year together in the gospel of Mark, and it has been astonishing and refreshing to examine the life and teachings of Jesus again. But this week the text is going to claim, as a record of history, that Jesus rose from the dead. If the claim is true, then there are some consequences for us to consider in our lives, because the guy who walks out of the grave gets to call the shots.

- Read Mark 16:1-8

### Evidence Supporting the Biblical Claim of the Resurrection:

The discipline of being able to give a reason for the faith you have in Christ is called apologetics, as taken from the Greek word *apologia* that we find it in 1 Peter 3:15 where we are told to be ready to give a 'defence'.

#### Three lines of evidence:

1. The empty tomb
  2. The witnesses
  3. The persevering church
- ❖ Q: Have you ever considered the resurrection account at length? Do believe that this account is true and accurate, that Jesus literally, not figuratively, rose from the dead?
  - ❖ Q: Consider the 3 lines of evidence. Can you recollect the specifics that were discussed in the sermon? Discuss these with your GC.
  - ❖ Q: Have you ever been in a position where you have had to defend your faith, specifically the account of the resurrection?
  - ❖ Q: Do you think that being able to give reasons for your faith, to an unbelieving friend perhaps, is a useful skill and should be something that all Christians can do to a certain degree?

### Three Implications of Christ's Resurrection

#### 1. Our Response To Christ Must Be Considered

If Jesus defeats sin and Satan and walks out of the grave, then he isn't a teacher to be considered, a worldview to be adopted or a wisdom to be debated, He is the Lord to be worshipped and obeyed.

- ❖ Q: have you truly considered the implications of the resurrection of Jesus, and specifically the implications of this fact in your life?
- ❖ Q: Knowing that Jesus took our sin to the grave with him, that we are raised up into newness of life with him, free from the dominion of sin because of his grace, what emotions are you driven toward?
- ❖ Q: Would you say that your life reflects that you have been raised to newness of life in Christ? Phrased another way, how are you responding to the resurrection of Jesus, today?

#### 2. Our Vision of the Future Must Be Altered

Right throughout his ministry Jesus said that he had come to bring the Kingdom of God, and in that Kingdom the world will begin to work again as it always should have.

- ❖ Q: What do you understand the Kingdom of God to be?
- ❖ Q: How does Jesus ministry in his life as a man show glimpses of the Kingdom here on earth?
- ❖ Q: Jesus said that he will again return and that things will be made new. What hope and comfort does this give you, considering all the wrongs, suffering, and sin that still persist in the world, even in your own life?

#### 3. Our Certainty in The Character Of God Must Be Increased and Enjoyed

The scripture tells us again and again that Jesus is the full representation of the nature of God. He is God made flesh.

- ❖ Q: What does Jesus' resurrection tell you about his nature?
- ❖ Q: Knowing that he was no mere man, but God incarnate, and risen from the dead, what do you learn about the character of God as you look upon Christ?
- ❖ Q: What actions are you driven to, when you consider the tenderness and love of God toward you, as evidenced by the death and resurrection of Jesus?