

4. What lessons can I learn?

- A. There is abundant evidence for the resurrection!

- B. Like the women at the empty tomb, God wants us to go and tell others that Jesus rose from the dead! Jesus is alive today! He offers to forgive us, save us, and make us into new people.

- C. While it is our job to tell the good news that Jesus rose from the dead, it is God's job to convince people that the news of Jesus' resurrection is true by changing their lives.

Life Group Questions

1. What stood out in this message? What did you learn you didn't know?
2. If you wanted to make up a story about a man being resurrected from the dead, how would it differ from Mark's account of Jesus' resurrection? Why is the oddness of Mark's account evidence of its truth?
3. How does the founding of the church in the city of Jerusalem provide evidence for the resurrection?
4. Hypothetically, what could the Romans or Jews have done that would have stopped the Christian religion before it started? Why did they not do those things?
5. How does your own heart and personal experience give testimony to the resurrection of Christ?
6. Jesus raised people from the dead but they eventually died again. How was Jesus' resurrection body — and how will our resurrection bodies — be different from the bodies we have today? How will they be similar? Why is that encouraging? See 1 Corinthians 15:35-44, Luke 24:36-42, Philippians 3:21, 1 Corinthians 15:50, and John 20:27.
7. The angels instructed the women to go and tell the disciples that Jesus rose from the dead. It wasn't their job to convince others that Jesus' resurrection was true. It was their job to tell others that the resurrection was true. Why is it important to know that our job is telling people of Jesus' resurrection and not convincing people of its truth? How did Jesus convince people that he was alive in the Bible? How does Jesus convince people He is alive today?
8. We finished the Gospel of Mark! What was your favorite part of the book?

MARK THE KING AND THE CROSS

Mark 16:1-8 – The Resurrection Of Jesus

November 22, 2020

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 1 Corinthians 15:1–8 (ESV)

But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:13–14 (ESV)

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 1 Corinthians 15:17 (ESV)

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 1 Corinthians 15:20–21 (ESV)

What are Mark's evidences of the resurrection?

1. The empty tomb is evidence of the resurrection.

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. Mark 16:1 (ESV)

The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment. Luke 23:55–56 (ESV)

And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. Mark 16:2 (ESV)

Which one was it?

- Luke says, “at early dawn...”
- Matthew says, “While it began to dawn...”
- John says, “While it was still dark...”

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. John 20:1 (ESV)

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” John 20:1–2 (ESV)

And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” Mark 16:3 (ESV)

And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. Mark 16:4 (ESV)

...and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” Matthew 27:60–65 (ESV)

And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. Matthew 28:2 (ESV)

His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. Matthew 28:3–4 (ESV)

2. The angels are evidence of the resurrection.

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. Mark 16:5 (ESV)

While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. Luke 24:4 (ESV)

And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground,... Luke 24:5 (ESV)

And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. Mark 16:6 (ESV)

...the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead?” Luke 24:5 (ESV)

3. The witnesses are evidence of the resurrection.

But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. Mark 16:7–8 (ESV)

But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee. Mark 14:28 (ESV)

So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes. John 20:3–10 (ESV)

So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Matthew 28:8–9 (ESV)