

Spiritual Growth Questions for January 22, 2023

1. Contrast the disciples' actions (see **Mark 14:50**) with those of these women. Write down your observations, including the feelings and possible motivations of all involved. Why do you suppose Jesus' female followers were at the crucifixion (see **15:40-41**), followed Joseph to see where Jesus was buried (see **15:47**), and went to anoint the body, while most of His male followers were hiding?
2. **Read Mark 16:1-5.** What are the women expecting when they go to the tomb (16:1-3)? What do they see instead (16:4-5)? Describe what you would have thought and felt had you entered the tomb with the three women (see 16:5).
3. **Read Mark 16:6-8, John 21:15-17.** Why do you think the angel instructed the women to tell his message to "his disciples and Peter" (16:7, emphasis added)? What speaks to you about Jesus' post resurrection interaction with Peter? How did Peter change because of the resurrection? How has the resurrection changed you?
4. **Read Luke 24:45-47.** How is the resurrection both a fulfillment of prophecy and a vindication of the Lordship of Christ? Are your eyes wide open? Or is there still doubt? Why does this matter so much?
5. **Read Romans 8:11 & Philippians 3:10.** How would you explain to someone how resurrection power can make a difference in your life? Give an example. Why does the resurrection matter so much?
6. What do you see as your responsibility in helping to fulfill the Great Commission (see **Mk.16:15; Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8**)? Are you willing to follow wherever He leads? Ask God to show you are a person who you could share this message. Pray for them!
7. What is your biggest insight or take-away from this study?

Deeper study: It would be a mistake to think Jesus' death is more important for us than His resurrection. What did His resurrection accomplish for us? **See Romans 5:10; 6:1-14; 8:11, I Corinthians 15:12-21;** How has the resurrection changed (a) human history and (b) your personal history? What part of new life has meant the most to you?

Prayer: Dear Sovereign Lord, I want to know you and the power of your resurrection. I want your resurrection power to flow to and out of me for each situation that I am facing right now. Please help me to be a witness of your resurrection in my life. Your resurrection matters greatly to me. Thank you, Lord, for saving me and showing me how to live for You!

New Life Through Jesus: A Study of the Gospel of Mark Why the resurrection of Jesus matters so much?

Mark 16:1-20

January 22, 2023, Pastor John Lloyd

We are continuing our study called "New Life through Jesus: a study of the Gospel of Mark." This Gospel is the oldest gospel, and it is an assortment of biography of Jesus. It is a book that narrates the life of Jesus. The writer, John Mark, who wrote these accounts from the apostle Peter, wants his readers to not only know the testimony of Jesus but is also inviting them to become part of the story itself. I believe God is offering each one of us new life through Jesus. In our passage today, we will follow Jesus through his burial and resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus matters so much. My prayer is that we will renew our hearts in the amazing love that **Jesus Christ was raised for me.** His resurrection matters greatly to me! Happy New Year!

Mark 16:1 When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. 5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. 6 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. 7 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." 8 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. 9 Now when he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. 10 She went and told those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept. 11 But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. 12 After these things he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. 13 And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them. 14 Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. 15 And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. 16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." 19 So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken 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 message by accompanying signs.}}

Big Idea: Jesus died, was buried, and was raised on the third day to bring new life. Jesus Christ was raised for me!

What happened: Faithful women followers at the tomb (Mark 15:41-16:8)
Practical barriers to overcome 1-4, Amazement at the angelic message 5-7, their fear and silence on the way to Galilee vs.8

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

I. New life through Jesus is a _____ attested by many _____.

Eyewitnesses: I Cor. 15:5-8, 2 Peter 1:16-18, I John 1:1 Jesus becomes our living hope I Peter 1:3. We have at least eleven appearances. disciples in Jerusalem (Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-23), Thomas and the others (John 20:24-29), the seven on the lake (John 21:1-23), the disciples on the mountain (Matt. 28:16-20), five hundred followers (1 Cor. 15:6), James (1 Cor. 15:7), and the disciples at the ascension (Lk 24:44-53; Acts 1:1-12). From this rich store, each evangelist chose the material that fit his purposes. Grant Osborne

Mark. 16:13 But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. Luke 24:11 seemed to them an idle tale.

Seven theories: stole the body, made up the story, the “swoon” theory, total myth, subjective vision, objective visions, or actual appearances. Jesus predicted this three times in Mark. (Mark 8:31, 9:31, 10:33-34).
New life through Jesus is a fact! Jesus Christ was raised for me!

II. New Life through Jesus proves He is _____ than _____.

Mark 16:6 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.

Acts 2:23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. Death cannot hold us. Evil does not win!

Every Sunday is an implicit celebration of the resurrection of Christ, and we would do well to celebrate it more explicitly. R.C. Sproul (Heb.2:14-15)

Death couldn't hold him. Jesus Christ was raised for me!

III. New life through Jesus brings _____ to our lives.

Mark 16:7 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.”⁸ 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.

Peter was Mark's patron and source, and by mentioning him in this way, the angel showed definitively that Peter had not been rejected from future service in Christ's church because of his denial of Christ. R.C. Sproul

Romans 8:11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

We must be raised from the death of sin and walk in newness of life. This and this only is saving Christianity. J.C. Ryle

In God's sovereign plan, suffering also leads to victory, and persecution to vindication. The resurrection of Jesus concludes not just the passion events but the whole Gospel of Mark, and it promises for God's people that all of our **failures** will be overturned in Jesus. Grant Osborne

Romans 6:9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

New life through Jesus guarantees future resurrection for his followers. Jesus Christ was raised for me!

IV. Jesus commands us _____ and _____ others. New Life through Christ

Mark 16:15 And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. John 20:21, Matthew 28:18-20

Luke 24:47 and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. Acts 1:8

Can you say this: Historical faith says, “Christ lives!” Saving faith says, “Christ lives *in me!*” **Do you have saving faith? Will you put your faith in the one who undeniably rose from the dead?**

**Jesus Christ was raised for me!
Thank You for studying and obeying the Gospel of Mark!**