

CHECK THE ROCK! JESUS IS ALIVE!

Mark 16:1-8

INTRODUCTION: If the stone rolled in front of the tomb of Jesus is still in place, there is no resurrection. But the Rock has been rolled away!

Mark 16:2-4 "And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back— it was very large."

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

CHECK THE ROCK....

I. Jesus is _____!

Mark 16:6 "And [the angel] said to them, 'Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here.'"

II. Jesus is _____!

Romans 1:4 "[Jesus Christ our Lord]...was declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead." (NIV)

III. Jesus gives _____ to us!

1 John 1:7 "... the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."

1 Peter 1:3,4 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you ..."

IV. _____ is ours!

Philippians 3:10 "... [I want to know Christ] and the power of His resurrection."

GOING DEEPER
Easter Weekend – April 7-8, 2012
Scripture Focus: Mark 16:1-8

I. OPEN

- A. What is the most unbelievable event you have ever witnessed?
- B. Recall your Easter celebrations when you were young. What kinds of things did you do? What are your family customs now?
- C. How is this year's Easter celebration special for you?

II. DIG

- A. Mark 16:2 tells us that the women went to the tomb "very early on the first day of the week." What does this tell you about these ladies? Where would their thoughts have been since the events of Friday?
- B. Look at Mark 16:3. What potential problem looms ahead? What do they fear? Instead, what do they find?
- C. When they entered the tomb, instead of finding the body of Christ, they saw a young man. Who does Matthew identify this man as? (See Matthew 28:2,5) What thoughts do you imagine went racing through their heads?
- D. Do you think the women believed the message of the angel? Why did they run away in fear?
- E. The angel specifically tells the women to go and tell Christ's disciples, but especially Peter. (v.7) Why do you think Peter is singled out to receive the news of the resurrection? What does this tell you about Jesus' future plans for Peter?
- F. The resurrection is the climax of the Gospels. What would have happened if Christ had not risen from the grave? See Paul's comment in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19.

(Continued)

III. REFLECT

- A. Would you have had trouble believing the angel's words at the tomb? Why or why not?
- B. Easter is a special day for us Christians. Every weekend, worship is meant to be a "Little Easter." It has been said that as a result of the resurrection, we are "Easter People." What do you think this means? (See 1 Peter 1:3,4)
- C. Paul writes in Phil. 3:10, "I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection." What is the power that is offered to you as a result of Christ rising from the dead?
- D. When the ladies got to the tomb, the stone had been rolled away by God. Are there any problems that seem like "boulders" in your life right now? Share a time when God removed a big stone from your life? While sometimes the Lord removes those big issues in our lives, other times he gives us the strength and faith to bear up under them. What promise do we have? (See 2 Cor. 12:9, 1 Cor. 10:13)
- E. The women were told in v.7 to "go, tell...". (See also Mark 16:15) Is there someone whom God has put upon your heart to share the good news of life through Christ Jesus this Easter? What should you do about it?