

# Leader Guide



**Speaker:** Casey Scott

**Series:** Easter

**Title:** He Is Risen!

**Primary Texts:** Mark 16:1-8

**Big Idea:** Jesus is risen—go find Him and join Him in His work.

## Sermon Outline

### 1. Introduction – The Shock of Resurrection

- The phrase “Christ is risen” can feel familiar, but on the first Easter it was shocking and unexpected.
- No one anticipated resurrection; the women came carrying grief, spices, and love—not hope.
- The angel’s message (“He has risen... go...”) is not just historical—it is still the message for us today.
- Mark’s abrupt ending invites the reader to respond personally: What will you do with the resurrection?

### 2. STOP – Stop Looking for Life in Dead Places (Mark 16:1-3)

- The women demonstrate love and devotion but are looking for Jesus in the wrong place—the tomb.
- They expect a dead Savior, not a risen King.
- The large stone represents real obstacles, yet they keep moving toward Jesus.
- Application: We often return to dead places—sin, shame, old identities, or familiar patterns—hoping to find life.
- Easter confronts this: Stop looking for the living Christ among dead things.

### 3. LISTEN – Hear Heaven’s Interpretation (Mark 16:4-7)

- The empty tomb alone creates confusion; it must be interpreted by God’s Word.
- The angel declares: “He has risen! He is not here.” This is the central truth of Christianity.
- The resurrection is not symbolic—it is a real, historical, bodily event.
- The inclusion of “and Peter” highlights grace for those who have failed.
- Application: We must listen to God’s truth over our fears, assumptions, and emotions.
- The resurrection redefines sin, shame, death, and hope.

### 4. GO – Join the Risen Christ on Mission (Mark 16:7-8)

- The angel gives direction: Jesus is going ahead of you into Galilee.

- The risen Christ is not static—He is active and on mission.
- Galilee represents the place of calling, discipleship, and renewed following.
- Jesus invites His followers—including those who failed—to rejoin Him.
- Application: Easter is not just something to celebrate, but a summons to follow.
- We are called to go—tell, serve, forgive, obey, and participate in His mission.

#### 5. Conclusion – Living in Resurrection Reality

- The women respond with fear and awe—resurrection disrupts normal life.
  - Mark ends the Gospel this way to push us into decision.
  - The message remains: Stop. Listen. Go.
  - Final call: Trust the risen Christ, leave dead places behind, and join Him in His ongoing work.
- 

### HEART – "This Is Me"

1. Where are you still looking for life in places that cannot give it?
2. What fears or doubts keep you from trusting the resurrection?
3. Do you believe Jesus still calls you, even after failure?
4. What keeps you from fully surrendering to Jesus?
5. What old patterns is God asking you to leave behind?
6. How is Jesus inviting you to encounter Him personally this week?

### HEAD – "This Is What I Need to Think About"

1. Why were the women expecting to find Jesus dead?
2. What does the empty tomb mean in light of the angel's message?
3. Why is the resurrection central to Christian faith?
4. What is the significance of mentioning Peter?
5. Why does Mark end his Gospel abruptly?
6. What does it mean that Jesus goes ahead of His followers?

### HANDS – "This Is How I Need to Act"

1. Stop returning to one 'dead place' this week.
2. Spend time daily listening to God through Scripture.
3. Take one step of obedience where Jesus is leading you.
4. Share the message of Jesus' resurrection with someone.
5. Forgive someone or take a step toward reconciliation.
6. As a group, pray about where Jesus is already at work and join Him.