



## SERMON STUDY GUIDE

"MARK 16" ON APRIL 5 + 8 + 9, 2023

### CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed affect your week?

### DISCOVER

- What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?
- How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
- Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

**MARK 16** The Resurrection Story – a weekend in time that changed the course of history! This Messiah, God's own Son, was crucified and buried, dashing the hopes and expectations of His followers and all those around Him. And then light pierced darkness – Jesus rose from the dead! He conquered death and sin on our behalf! If this is true, that should **CHANGE EVERYTHING!** For a fuller picture of the Resurrection Story, read each gospel writer's account: Matthew 28:1-10, Luke 24: 1-12 and John 20:1-18 in addition to today's passage.

**The Resurrection Story: Expectation vs. Realization.** Jesus' followers believed Him to be the long-awaited Messiah, and they had definite expectations of what His coming would do in their lives.

- Review the main 'characters' in this account – who were these followers and disciples - how did they come to be following Jesus, and what were they expecting of Him?
- Based on their expectations, what would be the feelings of Jesus' followers as they saw Him crucified and buried – on Friday and Saturday, what were they thinking, struggling with, looking for? Consider what had happened over Jesus' 3-year ministry and what events had taken place just this Holy week -Imagine if you had been one of these followers; how would you be feeling?
- In your relationship with Jesus, what are you looking for? What expectations do you have from Him as your Savior as you encounter life's many challenges?

**The Resurrection Story: Why Mary?** God chose each of the people in this story to be a part of this life-changing event, and His choices tell us a lot about who He is!

- **Why Mary Magdalene?** Why did God choose her to be the first person to hear of the risen Christ? How did she respond to finding the empty tomb and later to actually seeing Jesus and hearing His voice? What can you learn from Mary's story and how Jesus loved her so much that she would become the centerpiece of the foundation of the church we are now a part of? Are you looking for Him, listening for Him, and ready to respond to Him?
- **Why Peter who denied Jesus?** Why James, Jesus' brother who mocked Him? Why John Mark, who was a quitter who later became a leader of the church in Jerusalem? What do you learn from these men' stories about your own past mistakes, your failures and inadequacies when it comes to being used by God? How does this remind you that Jesus isn't done with you yet?

**The Resurrection Story: The Resurrection changes everything!** The resurrection of Jesus changed everything in each of these followers' lives, in the world around them, and in the birth and growth of the church! How has the resurrection of Jesus changed everything for you?

- It is important to remember that the resurrection of Jesus changed everything not only for our future, but for our present! What has changed in your life because of this Resurrection Story, both in looking at your present life and in looking with an eternal view? How does knowing that sin and death have been conquered shape your perspective and purpose each day of your life – HAS it changed everything for you?
- If death has been conquered and our sins forgiven, and Jesus' one request for us is to **LOVE THE WORLD** and **SHOW THE WORLD WHO HE IS** - what has changed in your life?



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

## SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

### RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

### PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.