

A Resurrection Crisis

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Mark 16:1-8

March 31, 2024

Snapshot:

The resurrection of Jesus should cause fear.

I. A Spiritualized Resurrection (16:1–3)

II. An Intellectual Resurrection (16:4–6)

III. A Fearful Resurrection (16:7, 8)

Checking in

*Anything you want to share from your time in the Word this week?
How can the group be praying for/with you?*

Connecting

What is one thing you took from the sermon this week?

Study

Point 1: A Spiritualized Resurrection (16:1–3)

READ: John 11:17–44

REFLECT: What does Martha reveal she understands about the resurrection? What does she not understand about what Jesus is saying? When does Martha think the resurrection will take place? In what way(s) does Martha's response to Jesus calling out Lazarus correspond with the women heading unexpectedly to the tomb of Jesus that Sunday morning?

RESPOND: The way I am using spiritualize is to give something (the resurrection in this case) a spiritual meaning in an abstract way; a way that really doesn't affect our everyday lives. How have you seen in your own life the tendency to separate spiritual things from your daily life? How does that affect our walking by faith?

Point 2: An Intellectual Resurrection (16:4–6)

READ: Romans 6:1–14

REFLECT: Discuss how Paul ensures that the Roman church does not just believe the resurrection intellectually. How does the resurrection change the believer?

RESPOND: What would it look like for you to only believe in the resurrection intellectually? How would believing in the resurrection only in the mind change or not change how you live day by day? What are some things you can do to make sure the resurrection is not just a fact you know in your mind but a reality that changes your life? What would it look like for you to live a resurrected life now?

Point 3: A Fearful Resurrection (16:7, 8)

READ: Genesis 32:30; Deuteronomy 5:24; Judges 6:22, 23; 13:21, 22; Isaiah 6:5; Revelation 1:17

REFLECT: What do these texts teach you about humans encounter with God? What changed for the individuals after they

encountered God? How does this help you understand a different aspect of the women's fear?

RESPOND: Why would the resurrection bring fear to the women? Why should it bring some fear for us? Eugene Peterson wrote, "And we do well to be afraid, for it means the end of one way of life, in which we know where we stand, and the beginning of another, in which we don't know what will happen." Has the resurrection set you on a new path? How so?

Memorizing

"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).

Preparing for next week

Read: Matthew 6:5-8

Ask: questions of the text

Pray: through text, for the pastor as he prepares, for your heart to hear, for the congregation to hear, for all of us to be obedient.