

Victory By Surrender: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of October 11th

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** below along with the foundational questions we ask each week.

Week 35: Mark 16

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

“The final scene points back to Galilee, back to the beginning of the story. The young man's message at the tomb with instructions for the disciples to go to Galilee suggests perhaps a fresh start for the disciples or for anyone in the future of the story world who chooses to follow Jesus. By implication, this fresh journey will result in the same complications and the same hostility met in Galilee by John and then by Jesus. Furthermore, Galilee points away from Jerusalem, the center of Judaism, toward gentile nations, where Jesus had said the good news was to be proclaimed before the end came. "However the disciples did not go immediately to Galilee. They needed further proof of Jesus' resurrection, which Jesus provided, before they went." -

Constable's Notes

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

1. The women loved Jesus and came prepared to honor Him, but they came expecting Him to still be dead. What do their actions reveal about the difference between loving Jesus and actually believing what He says? Where are you living as though everything depends on you rather than expecting Jesus to be alive and active?
2. The women are told, "He has risen! He is not here" (Mark 16:6), and then immediately, "Go, tell his disciples and Peter" (Mark 16:7). What does the order of these instructions teach us about how the resurrection changes what we do? Who is one person you will intentionally bring the hope of Jesus to this week?
3. The women are told to "go, tell" (Mark 16:7), but instead "said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid" (Mark 16:8). What does this contrast reveal about the way fear can interfere with obedience? Where is fear keeping you from trusting or obeying Jesus, and what is one step you will take this week despite that fear?