

Today's Reading: Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 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. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. 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. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Simple Summary (for Parents):

There is no better news in the whole world than what we read about in today's passage. When the women came to the tomb early on Sunday morning, they were surprised to find the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. The angel told them that the crucified Christ, who had been lying in the tomb hours earlier, had been raised (bodily) from the dead! The angel also told them to go and announce this astonishing news to the disciples. Because the women were afraid—seized with "trembling and astonishment"—they were not ready to share the news with anyone. However, this good news would soon become the theme of the early church's proclamation (Acts 2:14–36).

The resurrection on Easter Sunday was God's way of saying that Christ's sacrifice on Good Friday had been accepted. The sin debt of God's people had been paid. The One who had been mocked with a purple robe and a sarcastic royal inscription that read "King of the Jews" was now vindicated as the Lord and King of the entire world! And the good news for those who are trusting Christ is that they too share in Christ's victory. As the apostle Paul teaches us, "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:5). Sin and death have been defeated—praise God!

Discuss:

- 1. What do you think the women were expecting when they went to the tomb?**
(Remind your kids how unexpected this was for these women.)

2. Why were the women so afraid? Do you think you would have been afraid?

3. Was the Jesus who rose the same Jesus who had been crucified?

(See what your kids say before giving the answer. Point out that Jesus rose bodily from the dead. The same Jesus who had been crucified was raised—bodily—by the power of God, and, as Romans 6:9 reminds us, death no longer has any power over Him.)

4. How is Jesus's resurrection good news for us today?

(The resurrection shows us that God was pleased with the sacrifice of Jesus. Now, for everyone who trusts in Jesus, God will forgive their sins and give them new life. Those who belong to Jesus have the promise that they will be raised from the dead and live with God forever!)

5. When the women first learned about the resurrection, they were too afraid to speak. Should we keep silent about the resurrection today?

(No, we should tell everyone we know the good news that Jesus is alive! The early followers of Jesus eventually started telling everyone about His death and resurrection, and we should continue doing this today. People must hear and believe this good news in order to be saved.)

Pray:

Praise God that He has conquered sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ! Ask Him to help you rely on Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins and for the hope of eternal life.

Sing:

["Man of Sorrows"](#) (See Week 3 Song Sheet for lyrics)

