



## Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - April 8, 2012

### Sermon

*"Easter Reflections"*

Mark 16:1-8

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember  
about this sermon...

Monday 4/9/12

Mark 16:1

Mark's account of the Easter story begins after the Sabbath was over and he mentions three women: Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, who were going to anoint Jesus' body. This was in order to give him a proper burial since things were so rushed on Friday. The Sabbath was quickly arriving at 6pm on Friday, so there just wasn't time for a proper burial. When do you feel rushed? What is left undone when you are rushed?

Tuesday 4/10/12

Mark 16:2-3

The women were going to the tomb of Jesus very early on the first day of the week. In fact, it was sunrise. On the way, they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" Their minds were naturally on earthly and practical matters. How would they get into the tomb to give Jesus a proper burial? What practical problems do you face this week? What prevents you from doing what you want to do?

Wednesday 4/11/12

Mark 16:4

When the women arrived at the tomb and looked up (it sounds like they must have had their eyes down and on the ground), they saw that the stone was already rolled away and the entrance of the tomb was open. Their worry about moving the large stone was removed. What do you worry about? Does worrying and fretting about it make it any better? Do you look down or do you look up? How does God care and provide for our worries? Give your problems to the Lord and see what happens to them!



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

*What did the women see on Easter morning?*

*What worries did these women have?*

*Why were the women afraid?*

*What does this story of these women encourage you to do?*

Thursday 4/12/12  
Mark 16:5

The women entered the tomb. Remember, they were going there to anoint Jesus' body and give him a proper burial. But they saw a man dressed in a white robe sitting in the tomb! Mark records that the women were alarmed! You think? Wouldn't you be alarmed? Don't you think they were thinking they were seeing a ghost? Who was this man? Why was he there? And why was he dressed in a white robe? Wouldn't you have been alarmed, too? What does alarm you? What causes you to shake? Can you identify with these woman who were alarmed on Easter morning?

Friday 4/13/12  
Mark 16:6-7

This man dressed in the white robe told the women not to be alarmed. He had important information for the them--Jesus was not there because he was risen from the dead! He pointed to the place where Jesus body was laid down for burial and he was not there! Then the man told the women to go out and tell the disciples that Jesus is going ahead of them to Galilee and they will see him there just as he told you! If you were one of these women would have you believed these words? Would you have obeyed the command to tell the disciples this information? Sometimes we don't follow up with instructions because we simply don't believe them. Do you believe this story to be true?

Saturday 4/14/12  
Mark 16:8

This is the traditional ending of Mark's gospel. It doesn't sound like a very good ending to a good story. This verse records that the women were filled with terror and amazement, and they said nothing to anyone because they were afraid. The women eventually told the story of what they saw. What about you? Are you willing to tell others what you see and believe? Go out with boldness and share the stories of your faith!