

Rise
Rise to a New Story
Easter - April 12, 2009

Mark 16:1-8

¹ When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.
² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ 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. ⁷ 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." ⁸ 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.

Discussion Questions

Have you ever fallen down and then not wanted to get back up right away?
Why?

What do you think the followers of Jesus were doing in those hours between when Jesus died and when He rose again?
How many of them stuck around to help Jesus in those final moments?

Why was it so hard for them to 'get' the resurrection at first?
(The women were scared, Peter and John had to run to the tomb themselves, Thomas needed hands on proof.)
How was it different that anything that had happened in the world before?

What is the difference between coming back to life and resurrection?
Why is the difference important?

What does it mean that Jesus is still alive?
How does that truth change your life?