

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"THE BEGINNING" APRIL 16 & 17

SERIES OVERVIEW:

More than any other historical figure Jesus has been studied and written about and yet so many still wonder, who is Jesus, really? Cutting through the noise is the fast paced action packed Gospel of Mark. Mark presents the life of Jesus in two symmetrical acts: His IDENTITY as the King over all things and His PURPOSE in dying on the cross. As we explore the life of Jesus we will find Him to be unpredictable but reliable, meek but powerful, authoritative but humble, human but divine. As we encounter Jesus we must all consider the significance of the life of Jesus the King in our own lives.

*Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc.
Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.*

1

OPENING PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE:

About 3 minutes

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer.

2

BIG IDEA:

A seconds to read

How do we know that the Resurrection of Jesus wasn't just a tale made up by His followers. The empty tomb, the witness of the women and the change in the life of His disciples all serve to show us that the Resurrection of Jesus is really The Beginning for all of us.

3

INTRO QUESTIONS:

About 10 minutes

Describe a time in your life when something good was ending (job, school, relationship, other) and later you found something even better was able to start as a result. What did you feel at the time things were ending? How did you feel about it later?



April 16 & 17, 2022

Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus' body.
- Mark 16:1 NLT

Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - Mark 16:1-17.

What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might be God's invitation to you in this?

What might be God's challenge to you in this?

How might God be calling you to respond?
Be curious...and then do it.



DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

Can you say more about that?

How have you seen that play out in your life?

What does that stir up in you?

Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?

What might God be inviting you to do?

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

Read Mark 15:33-47. List the witnesses in this text that know Jesus has died. In what ways would this list of witnesses impact who and how the news of Jesus' death and resurrection would be shared? How does this list impact your view of his death and resurrection?

Jesus dies and the curtain in the temple is torn in two. (Mark 15:38). Read also Hebrews 9:6-10 and 10:19-23. What does it mean to you that you can now enter God's holy presence?

The resurrection changes everything about how we live now as we wait for Jesus to come again. See John 11:25-26, 1 Th 4:13-14, and 1 Co 15:13-19. Describe your view of difficult circumstances through the lens that this world is not the end. How does it help you live differently today?

5 LIVE IT OUT:

About 5 minutes

Read this section aloud. Invite the group to pray this suggested prayer each day.

Discuss: What does listening to Jesus look like for you? What will you need to do in order to listen well?

Try this practice out this week. Next time discuss what the practice of listening resulted in for you.

TAKE IT DEEPER



WORSHIP



GROW



SERVE



REACH

Live It Out

The [Disciple] LIFE is a life of following the resurrected Jesus...of listening and obeying. Create space to listen this week and intentionally set your heart to follow what Jesus tells you, whatever it is that he is calling you to obey.

Pray

As you pray, put yourself in this account, imagining yourself walking with the women to the tomb. Express to God what you imagine this to be like...thoughts, feelings, doubts, fears, etc.

Invite God to open to your eyes and your heart in a new or renewed way to Jesus.

Thank God that Jesus is alive!

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 10 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a few moments of silence for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally. Close in a time of popcorn prayer. Select one of the group members to open the time of prayer and another to close the prayer.