

NO ONE CAN STEAL YOUR GLORY
FOR IT IS YOURS ALONE
I STAND TO SING YOUR PRAISES

I Will Rise!

Easter 2021

Mark 15:42-16:8 - Message Reflection Guide

READ PSALM 23 - The ancient road from Jerusalem to Jericho is a narrow, treacherous path along a deep gorge in the Judean wilderness. Its name is Wadi Kelt, but it's known as the valley of the shadow, for this is the location that inspired David's 23rd Psalm. The place itself offers little reason to compose such a hopeful poem. The landscape is bleak, barren, and perilously steep. It's a good place for thieves, but not for anyone else.

When David wrote, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" (v.4), he was in a place where evil was an ever-present reality. Yet he refused to give in to fear. He wasn't expressing hope that God would abolish evil so that he could pass through safely; he was saying that the presence of God gave him the confidence to pass through difficult places without fear of being deserted by Him. In another psalm, David said that the Lord was his hope. He alone has the right to promise hope and the power to keep the promise.

Conversation Starter If you could instantly become an expert in something, what would it be?

Getting Into The Scriptures Read Mark 15:42-16:8

Pastor Jason said: "The resurrection of Jesus offers you guaranteed hope and continual hope." What do we hope in as Christians? In your own words work out a simple 3 or 4 sentence statement of your hope in Jesus including the resurrection and why it matters.

The women faced an empty tomb. At what point in your life did you last feel empty inside? What was happening in your life at that point? How did you move from emptiness to a place of hope?

Hope is a powerful thing. What are some of the benefits we share together as people who have put our hope in Jesus? How does being a part of community help you keep focused on hope in Jesus?

How have you experienced the continual hope of the resurrection in your life?

Jesus was not just resuscitated, He was resurrected, why do you feel that distinction is important?

Making It Real

Pray for each other, give thanks for the impact of the Risen Jesus in the lives of the group. Give thanks for the hope that we have in Jesus through the resurrection. Pray for opportunity to share your simple statements of hope and experience with people who are seeking and open. Pray for a chance to spread hope in Jesus to people in your sphere of influence.