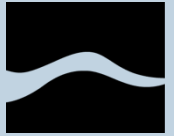


SERMON NOTES

TELL ME ABOUT THE REST OF THE STORY

Mark 16:9-20



BIG IDEA: The Gospel of Mark has ended, but the risen Christ is still at work through us today.

APPLICATION GUIDE

OCTOBER 18, 2026

DISCUSS

Have you ever read a book or watched a movie that ended so abruptly that you wondered, "Wait, is that it?" What made the ending so unsatisfying?

Mark's Gospel also ends rather abruptly, leaving us wondering what happened next. But are the additional verses part of Mark's original Gospel? Let's take a closer look.

EXPLORE

What differences do you notice between verses 9–20 and the rest of Mark's Gospel in terms of writing style, details, and the way events are presented? Why might these differences matter?

What is textual criticism, and how does comparing ancient biblical manuscripts help us determine what the original authors wrote? How can knowing about this process strengthen rather than weaken our confidence in the accuracy and reliability of our Bibles?

Although Mark likely did not write verses 9–20, what important truths about Jesus and his mission are affirmed in these verses? Where else in Scripture do we find these truths clearly taught?

APPLY

As we conclude our study of Mark, let's return to the three questions we considered when we began this series. Support your answers with specific passages, events, or teachings from Mark's Gospel.

Who is Jesus? After studying Mark's Gospel, what have you learned about his identity, character, and authority? What passages or encounters with Jesus have most shaped your understanding of who he is?

Why did Jesus come? What have you learned about his mission and the purpose of his life, death, and resurrection? What passages in Mark most clearly explain why he came?

What does Jesus want from me? How has your understanding of what it means to repent, believe, and follow Jesus grown through this study? What specific teaching or example from Mark challenges the way you're currently living?