



REDEEMED

Easter with Central

THEME

The resurrection of Jesus means there is victory over the grave. If we come to know this message as true, what will we do next?

GO DEEPER

Psalms 22 is a prophetic Messianic psalm written by King David. Even though it was written hundreds of years before Jesus was born, it foreshadows and foresees specific circumstances around Jesus's crucifixion. In fact, Jesus quotes Psalm 22 while on the cross—see Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34.

So, how can this psalm help us? When we read Psalm 22, we find unique insight into the faith of David amid his pain, and, as a result, we can learn how to trust God when all hope seems to be lost.

Read Psalm 22.

MARK 16:1-8

1When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him.

2Very early on the first day of the week, they *came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

3They were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?"

4Looking up, they *saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large.

5Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed.

6And he *said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him.

7But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.'"

8They went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

DIGGING IN

- **Head Change:** To know Jesus was accused in your place, taking the guilt of our sin onto himself.
- **Heart Change:** To feel deeply loved by God who sent his son to stand trial in our place.
- **Life Change:** To give up any pride or distractions keeping us from fully surrendering to Jesus.
- **What hope do we have because of Christ's resurrection?**
- **Are there any circumstances in your life that have caused you to lose hope?**
- Everything done to the Messiah is negative: he is mocked, people hid their faces from him, he was despised, etc. God prophesied that his people would do *nothing* good for the Messiah. His suffering was completely undeserved. Even so, he offered his people forgiveness that they, in turn, did not deserve or earn. His sacrifice "made us well" and "healed" us. **What does this unfair exchange tell you about God's love for his people?**
- **What evidence is there for the resurrection of Christ?**
- **What should we do with our doubts?**
- **In what ways could you and your community seek answers for your doubts together?**
- The first thing Jesus does in the Great Commission is remind us of his authority. If he is in charge of everything, then his mission for us is of supreme importance. He ends the commission with an assurance: he will be with us, no matter what. The King has given us a mission in his kingdom and will not abandon us. **In what ways does Jesus's authority comfort any fear or anxiety you have when it comes to evangelism and discipleship?**

5 MARKS FOCUS: SHARE YOUR STORY

In what ways have you seen God's power in your life? How does your faith show itself in your actions? Give an example.

How can you share that assurance with someone else? Make a list of people you can pray for and tell about Jesus. Create a simple gospel message, appropriate to the ages of those with you, to share with friends.

USE THE 2 OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS IN YOUR WALK THIS WEEK:

Read: We should consistently read the Bible rather than rely on others to tell us what it says. What can you do to make the Scriptures a more regular part of your everyday life?

Talk: In what ways could Jesus's grace toward you motivate you in your own relationships this week?

Share: Who is someone you could tell about Jesus's resurrection? What would you say?

LAST WORD

By rising from the dead, Jesus proved his power over sin and death. The Father accepted his sacrifice on our behalf, and we are redeemed—restored to a relationship with him. Francis reminded us that through the power of the Holy Spirit, God's presence is always with us. We are never alone. We have God's resurrection power in us. We are loved.

The Resurrection reminds us that love got the final say. That's the best news ever. Find someone to share that news with today.