He Has Risen

MARK 16:1-8 (BSB) · TEACHER GUIDE · DIGDEEPER.AI

THE BIG IDEA · SAY IT AT LEAST FIVE TIMES

Because the tomb is empty, the house of the LORD is home forever.

Open with it, bring it back after every section, close with it. By the end they should be able to finish the sentence for you.

- Before this passage (day 13): Mark 15:33-39, Forsaken. Its big idea: The Shepherd took the rod of judgment, so his rod and staff comfort us.
- After this passage (day 15): Luke 15:1-7, Goodness Pursues. Its big idea: God's goodness and mercy pursue us, like a shepherd after one lost sheep.

Open

Recall last time (Mark 15:33-39): the rod of judgment came down on the Shepherd. Today: the psalm's last line, "and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever." Ask: What makes a place feel like home? Read Mark 16:6. Big idea: Because the tomb is empty, the house of the LORD is home forever. Ask one person what stuck from last time.

Run Sheet

1. The House of the LORD (Psalm 23:6, about 8 min)

The one thing: The house of the LORD forever is a sure home because of the Shepherd, not the sheep's record.

Ask: David asked in Psalm 15, "Who may dwell on Your holy mountain?" How can anyone be sure of a place in God's house?

2. The Stone Rolled Away (Mark 16:1-5, about 10 min)

The one thing: No one expected the resurrection; the women came for a body and found an empty tomb.

Ask: The women came expecting to care for a dead body. What does that tell you about what they believed?

3. He Is Going Ahead of You (Mark 16:6-8, about 12 min)

The one thing: The risen Shepherd goes ahead of his sheep, out of the grave and into his Father's house.

Ask: Why does it matter that the risen Shepherd goes ahead of his sheep?

Close (never cut it)

Read Mark 16:6, then Psalm 23:6. The Shepherd has gone ahead out of the grave. Say together: "And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

PROTECT THE ENDING

If the last section starts late, read v6-7 and go to the close.

KIDS SIDE ANSWERS

Story order: 2, 4, 5, 1, 3 (top to bottom) · Feelings: The women walking to the tomb sad, The women seeing the young man worried, The women hearing "He has risen!" happy, Us, knowing Jesus is alive happy · Code: HE IS RISEN

Act it out: Make a tomb with a blanket over a table. The children are the women, walking slowly with "spices." They lift the blanket, find it empty, and a child dressed in white says, "He has risen! He is not here!"

1. The House of the LORD

PSALM 23:6 · ABOUT 8 MIN · SECTION 1 OF 3

THEIR PAGE, WORD FOR WORD (ANSWERS FILLED IN)

- The psalm’s road ends at God’s house.
- “Forever” is literally “for length of days.”
- Ecclesiastes calls the grave man’s “eternal home” (Ecclesiastes 12:5), literally “the house of his forever.”

Psalm 23:6 ends in God’s house. The women went to a TOMB (Mark 16:2).

“He has RISEN! He is not here!” (Mark 16:6)

Discuss: David asked in Psalm 15, “Who may dwell on Your holy mountain?” How can anyone be sure of a place in God’s house?

The house of the LORD forever is a sure home because of the Shepherd, not the sheep’s record.

MUST COVER

- Psalm 23:6: “and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”
- Psalm 27:4: David’s “one thing” was to dwell in the house of the LORD.

IF THERE'S TIME

- Psalm 15:1-2 sets a standard only Jesus meets.

Illustration idea: Coming back to a home where the light is on and someone is waiting for you.

RUNNING THE DISCUSSION

- Listen for: Home, not just a building.
- Listen for: Forever, because of him.

If it drifts: If the talk turns to speculation about what heaven looks like, return to the psalm: the point is whose house it is and who brings us there.

TRY SAYING SOMETHING LIKE

The psalm ends at home, in God’s house, forever.

Short on time? Drop Psalm 15. Keep Psalm 27:4.

Bridge → On the third day, three women walked to a grave.

2. The Stone Rolled Away

MARK 16:1-5 · ABOUT 10 MIN · SECTION 2 OF 3

THEIR PAGE, WORD FOR WORD (ANSWERS FILLED IN)

- The women bring spices to anoint a body.
- They worry about the large stone.
- They find it rolled away and a young man in white inside.

“Who will roll away the STONE from the entrance of the tomb?”

“When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were ALARMED.”

Discuss: The women came expecting to care for a dead body. What does that tell you about what they believed?

No one expected the resurrection; the women came for a body and found an empty tomb.

MUST COVER

- v1-2: these women saw him die (Mark 15:40), and two of them saw where he was laid (Mark 15:47).
- v4: the stone was very large; someone had done what they could not.

IF THERE'S TIME

- Mark 14:58: the false witnesses’ charge about a temple rebuilt “in three days”; John 2:21: “the temple of His body.”

Illustration idea: Arriving at a hospital room to say goodbye and finding the bed empty because the patient has walked out well.

RUNNING THE DISCUSSION

- Listen for: They came for a body.
- Listen for: Someone had already moved the stone.

If it drifts: If the conversation turns to theories about the empty tomb, keep it on what Mark reports: they saw the place, and he was not there.

TRY SAYING SOMETHING LIKE

They came for a body and found the stone rolled away.

Short on time? Drop the temple note. Keep v4.

Bridge → Then the young man speaks.

3. He Is Going Ahead of You

MARK 16:6-8 · ABOUT 12 MIN · SECTION 3 OF 3

THEIR PAGE, WORD FOR WORD (ANSWERS FILLED IN)

- “He has risen! He is not here!”
- “Go, tell His disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee.’”
- The women flee, trembling, and say nothing.

“He is going AHEAD of you into Galilee.”

“Go, tell His disciples and PETER.”

Discuss: Why does it matter that the risen Shepherd goes ahead of his sheep?

The risen Shepherd goes ahead of his sheep, out of the grave and into his Father’s house.

MUST COVER

- v7: Peter named by himself, after his denial.
- John 14:2-3: “In My Father’s house are many rooms... I will come back and welcome you into My presence.”

IF THERE'S TIME

- The earliest complete manuscripts of Mark end at v8.
- Romans 6:9: “He cannot die again.”

Illustration idea: A guide who crosses a river first, then turns and calls the group to follow.

RUNNING THE DISCUSSION

- Listen for: He goes ahead.
- Listen for: Even Peter is invited.

If it drifts: If the discussion turns to the longer ending of Mark, note briefly that the BSB prints it with a note, and return to v7.

TRY SAYING SOMETHING LIKE

Because the tomb is empty, the house of the LORD is home forever.

Short on time? Drop the manuscript note. Keep v6-7.

Bridge → So hear the psalm’s last line again beside the empty tomb.

With One Friend, Over Coffee

ABOUT 30 MINUTES · FOR A FRIEND WHO IS CURIOUS, OR NOT SURE

1. Start with home. Ask: What makes a place feel like home?
2. Read the psalm. Read Psalm 23:6.
3. Read Mark. Read Mark 16:1-8 together.
4. The empty tomb. The grave, man’s “eternal home,” is empty. The Shepherd has gone ahead.
5. Leave the question. Ask: If the tomb is empty, where is home? Leave it with them.

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HEAR

“Why did the women bring spices?”

Jesus was buried in a rush before the Sabbath. They came to honor his body properly.

“Why does Mark end with the women’s fear?”

The earliest manuscripts end at v8. The news was overwhelming; the other Gospels show that they did speak afterward.

“Why is Peter named?”

He had denied Jesus three times. The message makes sure he knows it is for him too.

“What does this mean for me?”

Because Jesus is alive and has gone ahead, everyone who belongs to him will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Evergreen Principles

Four standards every week. The rest rotate: each lesson brings the few that fit its passage best.

EVERY LESSON

1. Pray before you prepare

Teaching the Bible is spiritual work first (John 15:5).

If you're new: Pray for your class by name during the week.

If you've taught for years: Pray for the one person you find hardest to reach.

2. Study the text first

Understand the passage yourself before any help.

If you're new: Read it in two translations; write your own questions first.

If you've taught for years: Don’t lean on old notes. What did you miss last time?

3. Teach one big idea

People remember one sentence, not four points.

If you're new: Write it in 12 words or fewer before anything else.

If you've taught for years: Test every story against it. If it doesn’t serve it, cut it.

4. Point to Christ

All of Scripture points to him (Luke 24:27).

If you're new: Ask: what does this show about Jesus?

If you've taught for years: Show grace as the reason for obedience, not just the rule.

FOR THIS LESSON

1. Make it concrete

Mark names the women, the time and the stone.

If you're new: Describe a rock-cut tomb with a rolling stone, or show a picture of one.

If you've taught for years: Use Mark 15:46 and 16:3-4.

2. Let the Bible do the talking

The young man’s words carry the passage.

If you're new: Read v6 aloud twice.

If you've taught for years: Then read Psalm 23:6.

3. Let the passage land the way it lands

Mark ends on fear and silence.

If you're new: Do not rush to tidy up v8.

If you've taught for years: Let the room feel how overwhelming the news was.

BEFORE CLASS

- ☐ Read the passage three times
- ☐ Big idea in one sentence
- ☐ Opening and close chosen
- ☐ Know what you’ll cut
- ☐ Handouts, pens, extra Bibles
- ☐ Prayed for the class by name

Openings, Closings & Hard Moments

Pick one opening and one close; rotate so class doesn't get predictable.

OPENINGS

- ask a real-life question: What makes a place feel like home?

- use an object: Hold up a house key and ask what it means to have a key to a home.
- raise a problem: If every life ends in a grave, what could “forever” in Psalm 23:6 mean?

CLOSINGS

- restate the big idea: Because the tomb is empty, the house of the LORD is home forever.
- call back to the opening: Return to what makes a home, and read John 14:2-3.
- pray the text: Thank Jesus that he is risen and has gone ahead to prepare a place.

WHEN CLASS GETS HARD

- Someone is grieving a recent death.: Be gentle. The women came grieving too. Point to v6 and to Jesus’ promise of his Father’s house, without rushing their grief.
- Someone doubts the resurrection.: Welcome the question. Note that the first witnesses were frightened women whose testimony counted for little then; the Gospels record it because it happened.
- Silence after a question: Wait. Then rephrase simpler, or ask them to talk to a neighbor first.
- One person dominates: “Thanks. Let’s hear from someone who hasn’t spoken yet.” Talk privately if it continues.
- A question you can’t answer: Say so, write it down, bring an answer next week.
- A tangent takes over: “Great question. Let’s catch it after class so we can finish the passage.”

READ THIS WEEK

- John 14:1-6
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-28
- Psalm 27

Free at digdeeper.ai/devotionals/mark/16-1-8/lesson

He Has Risen

MARK 16:1-8 (BSB) · THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD · DIGDEEPER.AI

Key verse: “And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.” Psalm 23:6

THE BIG IDEA

Because the tomb is empty, the house of the LORD is home forever.

1. THE HOUSE OF THE LORD · PSALM 23:6

- The psalm’s road ends at God’s house.
- “Forever” is literally “for length of days.”
- Ecclesiastes calls the grave man’s “eternal home” (Ecclesiastes 12:5), literally “the house of his forever.”

Psalm 23:6 ends in God’s house. The women went to a _____ (Mark 16:2).

“He has _____! He is not here!” (Mark 16:6)

Discuss: David asked in Psalm 15, “Who may dwell on Your holy mountain?” How can anyone be sure of a place in God’s house?

2. THE STONE ROLLED AWAY · MARK 16:1-5

- The women bring spices to anoint a body.
- They worry about the large stone.
- They find it rolled away and a young man in white inside.

“Who will roll away the _____ from the entrance of the tomb?”

“When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were _____.”

Discuss: The women came expecting to care for a dead body. What does that tell you about what they believed?

3. HE IS GOING AHEAD OF YOU · MARK 16:6-8

- “He has risen! He is not here!”
- “Go, tell His disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee.’”
- The women flee, trembling, and say nothing.

“He is going _____ of you into Galilee.”

“Go, tell His disciples and _____.”

Discuss: Why does it matter that the risen Shepherd goes ahead of his sheep?

Read this week: John 14:1-6 · 1 Corinthians 15:1-28 · Psalm 27

For Kids: He Has Risen

MARK 16:1-8 · NAME: _____

Big idea: Jesus is alive, and we will live with him forever.

1. PUT THE STORY IN ORDER! NUMBER THE BOXES.

☐ They worry about the big stone.

☐ A young man says, “He has risen!”

☐ The women run away amazed.

☐ Women bring spices to the tomb.

☐ The stone is rolled away!

2. HOW DID THEY FEEL? CIRCLE ONE.

The women walking to the tomb: happy · sad · worried

The women seeing the young man: happy · sad · worried

The women hearing “He has risen!”: happy · sad · worried

Us, knowing Jesus is alive: happy · sad · worried

3. WORD SEARCH

Y	**R**	**Y**	**R**	**R**	**F**	**P**	**K**	**O**
B	**V**	**P**	**R**	**B**	**B**	**N**	**F**	**H**
H	**J**	**S**	**I**	**B**	**B**	**F**	**Y**	**O**
S	**E**	**W**	**S**	**H**	**A**	**O**	**F**	**U**
S	**S**	**O**	**E**	**P**	**L**	**R**	**B**	**S**
T	**U**	**M**	**N**	**T**	**I**	**E**	**P**	**E**
O	**S**	**E**	**S**	**O**	**V**	**V**	**G**	**F**
N	**K**	**N**	**B**	**M**	**E**	**E**	**B**	**P**
E	**U**	**Y**	**K**	**B**	**U**	**R**	**O**	**Y**

JESUS · TOMB · STONE · RISEN · ALIVE · WOMEN · HOUSE · FOREVER

4. SECRET CODE

1=E 2=H 3=I 4=N 5=R 6=S

___	___		___	___		___	___	___	___	___
2	**1**		**3**	**6**		**5**	**3**	**6**	**1**	**4**

5. DRAW IT!

Draw the tomb with the big stone rolled away, and the women looking inside.

6. MEMORY VERSE

“I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.” Psalm 23:6 Say it to a grown-up: ☐ ☐ ☐

Jesus is _____! _____