

God's Not Dead
Mark 16:1-8, Matthew 28:2, 8-10, and John 20:15-18

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him. And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" Looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large. Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed. And as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? And 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. "But go, tell His disciples and Peter, ' He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.'" They went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (Teacher). And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and that He had said these things to her.

- I. The Women approached the tomb with expectations. (15:47)

Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were looking on to see where He was laid.

1. The women expected to perform a ritual at the tomb. (16:1)

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

2. The women expected to pay their respects at the tomb. (16:2)

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

3. The women expected to be rebuffed at the tomb. (16:3)

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

- II. The women entered the tomb to find it empty. (16:4)

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

1. The women encountered a messenger at the empty tomb. (16:5)

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

2. The women received a message at the empty tomb. (16:6)

And 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.

3. The women accepted a mission at the empty tomb. (16:7-8)

"But go, tell His disciples and Peter, ' He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.'" They went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

- III. The women exited the tomb and had a Christ encounter. (John 20:14)

Mary turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus.

1. The women wept at their Jesus encounter. (John 20:15)

Jesus said to her, " Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?"

2. The women worshipped during their Jesus encounter.(Matt. 28:9)

And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. **And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him.**

3. The women witnessed after their Jesus encounter. (John 20:18)

Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord,"

