



Resurrection

April 15-16—Jim Johnson

Mark 15:42-16:8

OUR TIME WITH GOD

For the full reading plan, go to SPCC.TV/Church Study & Resources

As a reminder, here's what you read last week

MONDAY:	DEUTERONOMY 4:1-43	PSALM 100
TUESDAY:	DEUTERONOMY 4:44-5:33	PSALM 101
WEDNESDAY:	DEUTERONOMY 6-7	PSALM 102
THURSDAY:	DEUTERONOMY 8-9	PSALM 103
FRIDAY:	DEUTERONOMY 10-11	PSALM 104
SATURDAY:	DEUTERONOMY 12:1-14:2	PSALM 105
SUNDAY:	DEUTERONOMY 14:3-16:17	PSALM 106

3 QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE EACH DAY AS YOU READ:

1. What is the passage saying?
2. Does the passage tell you something about God or about yourself?
3. Is there something Jesus is reminding you of regarding who He is or who you are in Him? How is He inviting you to respond to His voice today?

REFLECTING ON YOUR TIME WITH GOD THIS WEEK:

1. Whether you're using SPCC's reading plan or a different one, think about your time listening and responding to Jesus this week. As you journaled those conversations with Him, is there something that you felt Him speaking to you about?

SHARING WITH YOUR GROUP:

2. Life Group leader, ask one or two people in your group to share their answer to question number one.

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTION:

3. Do you have any questions or observations from Pastor Jim's message this week?

As the narrative stands, the words of Jesus rather than the resurrection itself occupy center stage. The message from the risen Lord is not a new word. It is the same message he gave them on the night of his betrayal: "But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee" (14:28). These are words of repentance and faith. For the disciples who forsook him and especially for Peter, who struggled in vain to keep his pledge of faithfulness, this message is a summons to turn their backs on the past and follow Jesus into a new future. – Ronald Kernaghan, IVP New Testament Commentary, Mark

MY PERSPECTIVE:

4. Do you have a favorite family Easter tradition? If so, describe.

DIGGING DEEPER:

5. Compare Mark 16:1-8; Matthew 28:1-8 and Luke 24:1-10. What differences in these three resurrection accounts stand out to you? What unique details does each Gospel writer emphasize?

LOOKING DEEPER:

The women, intent on their funeral errand, are preoccupied with death. They endeavor with their spices and anxieties to bring some kind of closure, however inadequate, to a tragic drama. But all their preparations leave them unprepared for the reality they encounter; what they intend to be a terminal visit is but a commencement. The Jesus they are "looking for" enshrined in a safe place cannot be found. The visit to the tomb is vintage Markan irony: the living are consumed with death, but the Crucified One is consumed with life. The Crucified One, says the angel, has been raised! The angel invites the women to see the place where they last saw the body of Jesus. The references to the place of his burial and to Jesus as the crucified one are of critical importance. The women are not directed to a mystical or spiritual experience or to a numinous encounter. They are directed specifically to Jesus, who died by a crucifixion they witnessed, was buried in a place they witnessed, and now has been resurrected. The announcement of the divine emissary establishes an inseparable continuity between the historical Jesus and the resurrected Jesus. The one whom the angel invites them to know is the one whom they have known. The announcement of the angel is literally the gospel, good news, and the place from which the gospel is first preached is the empty tomb that both received and gave up the Crucified One... The empty tomb testifies that Jesus who died as a bodily being was raised as a bodily being, and it is the historical place and point in time that marks the transition between two orders of existence. Along with early Christianity, Mark is interested in faith in the resurrected Jesus, not in proofs of his existence. It is an encounter with the resurrected Lord, not the empty tomb, that produces faith. – James Edwards, PNTC, Mark

For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. (Romans 6:5)

6. Read Romans 6:1-11. From these verses, describe how the resurrection of Jesus impacts your daily Christian life. What does it look like for you to regularly "count" or "consider" yourself dead to sin and alive to God?

MY RESPONSE:

- 7.** Read Ephesians 1:15-23. The immeasurable power that God used to raise Jesus from the dead is the power that is at work on our behalf (v. 19). Describe one way that you've seen God's resurrection power at work in your life this year.
- 8.** Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-17. Because Jesus is risen, the "old" in your life has died and you've been made new. Despite this reality, we sometimes cling to our "old" rather than the new. Describe one area in your life where you really need to embrace the truth that Jesus has made you a new creation.