

**God's Not Finished With Us!**

**Easter**

Mark 16:1-8

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Jesus had clearly predicted his death and resurrection even as he walks with his disciples through Holy Week - yet they never truly understand or expect it. By Easter morning, every disciple has failed him through betrayal, denial, fear, and flight. Consequently, it is the two women who come to the tomb, not the disciples. Mary Magdalene and Mary mother of James and Salome are not expecting a resurrected Jesus, but to anoint a dead body. Easter begins in grief and confusion.

1. Where do you recognize confusion, disappointment, or unmet expectations in your own faith journey?
2. How does it change Easter for you to see that resurrection begins amid failure, not confidence?

Imagine if, because of their unbelief and betrayal, Jesus had decided to abandon these followers after the resurrection and start over with better ones. After all, no one is waiting for or looking for him after he dies. Instead, the risen Jesus *pursues* frightened, ashamed, and failed disciples—speaking peace and restoring relationships with them.

1. Where might you be assuming Jesus has given up on you—or grown tired of your failures?
2. What would it look like to trust that the risen Jesus is still actively seeking you out?

Once Jesus finds them, these same disciples are transformed from scared betrayers to bold witnesses. Peter moves from denial to fearless proclamation, even to martyrdom, not by willpower but by resurrection grace. Resurrection life has continued for centuries beyond the apostles, reshaping how Christians love, serve, forgive, and value every human life.

1. Where might resurrection life be calling you to courage, generosity, or sacrificial love?
2. If Jesus is not finished with you, what part of your life might Easter be renovating right now?