L GROUNDWORK

Easter: Jesus is Risen!

Each year, Christians around the world celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. The impact of the resurrection is so profound that each of the four gospels tells the story. The details vary, but each account clearly announces that Jesus Christ is risen! As we study the gospel stories of Jesus' victory over death, we're invited to participate in telling Christ's story again and again.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Which Easter traditions do you find most meaningful?
- How do you think you would have reacted if you had been with the women who discovered the empty tomb? What emotions do you think you might have felt?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Easter: Jesus is Risen!

READ Mark 16:1-8, Matthew 28:1-10, Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-10

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- At the close of segment 1, host Scott Hoezee describes the abrupt ending of the gospel of Mark (specifically Mark 16:7) as an invitation to "go back to Galilee," where Jesus' ministry began in Mark 1:14, and re-read the whole gospel now that we've been to the cross. How does observing the Christian liturgical calendar naturally help us "go back to Galilee"?
- When in your life have you felt raw, mixed emotions like the women at the tomb in Matthew?
- How might we, as Scott suggests in segment 2, hold in good tension "a little holy awe and fear" with the joy of the empty tomb in our worship services?
- What do you appreciate about each of the four gospel accounts of Jesus' resurrection?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

Mark 8:31-33, Luke 9:21-22, 43-45, Luke 18:31-34, Matthew 12:38-40, Matthew 16:21-23, Matthew 17:22-23, Matthew 20:17-19, John 20:19-31

CONCLUSION

After discussing each of the four gospel accounts of Jesus Christ's resurrection, Scott and Darrell Delaney concluded the episode with three takeaways for us to consider:

- 1. The honesty of the gospels
- 2. Letting the awe of Christ's resurrection into our hearts

3. Our call to tell the story

How will you allow these truths to impact your daily life? Celebrate Jesus' resurrection this Easter and give thanks to God for the opportunities you have to tell his story.

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