

Lent: The Last Seven Days: Easter – Mark Scene 42

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Mark 16:1-8

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**Reflection & Discussion Questions**

**Read and discuss Mark 16:1-3 (NIV)**

*<sup>1</sup>When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup>Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb <sup>3</sup>and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"*

\*What is this passage saying?

\*What do you imagine these women are feeling?

**We are not even strong enough to move the stone**

Sometimes the world gets so dark we can begin to wonder if love, hope, and light might be an illusion.

\*How have you been reminded of your smallness recently?

\*When was a moment in your life that you can identify with these women – 'I can't even move the stone'?

**Read and discuss Mark 16:4-8 (NIV)**

*<sup>4</sup>But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.*

*<sup>6</sup>"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"*

*<sup>8</sup>Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.*

\*What is this passage saying? What does it tell us about God?

\*What do you imagine these women are feeling now?

\*What makes this an intriguing ending to the book of Mark?

**We have a choice: we have nothing, even when it feels like we have something OR we have everything even when it feels like we have nothing**

One of these is real and one is an illusion and we choose which we believe.

\*What is difficult about making the choice between these two?

\*What does holding on to hope look like for you right now? Where do you see this hope in practice around you?

\*How can we encourage each other to be people of hope? How can we encourage our neighbors to look up?

**Visual reflection (Visio Divina)\*** [Church of Light](#) by Hiroshi Sugimoto

**Song for reflection** [Living Hope](#) by Phil Wickham (ft. The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir)

\*Visio divina – a thoughtful and slow way of contemplating a visual prompt like a piece of art, photograph or image and inviting God to speak to you through it. First, focus on the detail that your eyes are drawn to right away – keep focus there and pay attention to what thoughts and emotions you are having. Then, look at the entire image and consider it as a whole, being aware of thoughts, questions and emotions it provokes. End in silence and prayer, considering your experience and anything you feel called to respond to.