

Small Group / Personal reflection material

WRITTEN IN STONE SERIES: SHOUTING STONES

(4 April 2021)



1. Read Luke Mark 16:-1-8. What stands out for you most about this account?

Mark 16:1-8:

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. ²Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³and they asked each other, 'Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?'

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

⁶'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. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."'

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

2. The women were asking the question about how they would move the tomb stone. There was a barrier to getting to Jesus for them. Have you ever felt like there was something preventing you from getting to or experiencing God?
3. When they arrived, the stone had been rolled away. Not only was their secondary problem (the heavy stone) removed, but their primary problem (that Jesus was dead) was resolved too! So often, we get so focused on the stones in front of us, that we fail to see or remember the bigger reality of what God has done for us. Do you agree? Have you experienced this?
4. The Good News is that the tomb is still empty and that Jesus is still rolling stones. What stones stand in your path at the moment (things you're worried about, struggling with, feeling overwhelmed by) and how can You give these things to God?
5. When the women **looked up** they saw that the stone was rolled away. How do you think you can do that in your life?
6. The angel told them not to be afraid. There is much to fear in our world, but Jesus said, "In this world you will have trouble, but take heart, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33). What does this mean to you?
7. The angel also told them that they did not have to be afraid because Jesus had gone before them into Jerusalem. In the same way, He goes before us, from the empty tomb, and invites us into new life and purpose with Him. How can you live in that newness of life and purpose right now?