**Mark 16 *New Revised Standard Version***

1When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” 4When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 5As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. 6But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. 7But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” 8So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-24874a)]

#### The Shorter Ending of Mark

[[And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-24874b)]]]

#### The Longer Ending of Mark

### Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

9[[Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. 10She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. 11But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.

### Jesus Appears to Two Disciples

12After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. 13And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

### Jesus Commissions the Disciples

14Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-24880c)] 15And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-24881d)] to the whole creation. 16The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. 17And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18they will pick up snakes in their hands,[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-24884e)] and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

### The Ascension of Jesus

19So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. 20And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.[[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-24886f)]]]

#### Footnotes

1. [Mark 16:8](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#en-NRSV-24874) Some of the most ancient authorities bring the book to a close at the end of verse 8. One authority concludes the book with the shorter ending; others include the shorter ending and then continue with verses 9–20. In most authorities verses 9–20 follow immediately after verse 8, though in some of these authorities the passage is marked as being doubtful.
2. [Mark 16:8](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#en-NRSV-24874) Other ancient authorities add *Amen*
3. [Mark 16:14](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#en-NRSV-24880) Other ancient authorities add, in whole or in part, *And they excused themselves, saying, “This age of lawlessness and unbelief is under Satan, who does not allow the truth and power of God to prevail over the unclean things of the spirits. Therefore reveal your righteousness now”—thus they spoke to Christ. And Christ replied to them, “The term of years of Satan’s power has been fulfilled, but other terrible things draw near. And for those who have sinned I was handed over to death, that they may return to the truth and sin no more, that they may inherit the spiritual and imperishable glory of righteousness that is in heaven.”*
4. [Mark 16:15](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#en-NRSV-24881) Or *gospel*
5. [Mark 16:18](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#en-NRSV-24884) Other ancient authorities lack *in their hands*
6. [Mark 16:20](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16&version=NRSV#en-NRSV-24886) Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

* As you read through this chapter, what details do you notice, what stands out to you? Maybe you had not noticed those before, or maybe they are coming through strongly to you today.
* As you mull over and wonder about these details, consider that God may be speaking to you through these things that caught your attention. Ask God to show you what that message might be. It doesn’t have to be elaborate or action-oriented. It could be a change of perspective, clarity, or comfort.
* Turning to the passage again, think about the following questions:
  + How did the women prepare for their visit to Jesus’ tomb? When do you think they did this? What were their concerns?
  + What did they find upon their arrival? How might you have felt or reacted?
  + What message were the women given, and what did they do about it?
  + Where is Jesus in this passage (up through verse 8)?
  + What happens in the longer ending of Mark, 16:9-17?
  + There are three different endings to this Gospel. The shorter and longer versions were written later. How does the meaning of the story, Jesus’ message, and the disciples’ reaction differ from the vantage point of each ending: A) 16:8, B) 16:8+, C) 16:9-17?
  + If you were to choose an ending to Mark, which would you choose, and why?

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.