**Sermon Notes**

**“The Empty Tomb”**

**Mark 16:1–8**

**1 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. 2 Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb 3 and they asked each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?” 4 But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. 5 As 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. 7 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.’ ” 8 Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.**

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**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. 7 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.’”**

The empty tomb presents a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Sometimes God's greatest redemptive work is being done right under our noses, but we aren’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is why it's important to walk by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and not by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter…**

The empty tomb declares the source of your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, hopelessness and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be woefully insufficient to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. What new or fresh-to-me insight did you gain from this message? How do you plan to respond to it.

2. Compare Mark’s account of the resurrection to Matthew’s (chapter 28), Luke’s (chapter 24), and John’s (Chapter 20). What reasons can you think of to account for how much shorter Mark’s account is?

3. The women’s first reaction was to say nothing to anyone out of fear. Why do you think this was their reaction? Have you had a similar reaction in your life after experiencing a powerful encounter with God?

4. Is there a failure on your life that tempts you to think you are beyond God’s restoring power? If so, what is it? How do the words “and Peter” challenge your thinking in this area?

5. “We are always playing catch-up to Jesus.” How have you experienced this to be true in your Christian walk?

6. Where do you sense Jesus is calling you to “go and tell”? How are you being called to share the good news of Jesus with others in a way they can appreciate and hear?