

Sticky Group Discussion Questions for Sunday, April 5, 2015

Rolling Stones

Mark 16:1-8

1. The women (and later, others) at the tomb were eyewitnesses to an event that shook the physical and spiritual worlds. Share with your group the most significant event you've ever been an eyewitness to. (It will probably be less dramatic than the resurrection of Christ, but that's okay.)

2. Piece together the chronology of those Easter morning events. Have some volunteers in the group read the passages below in the order given. Discuss what you find to be significant about the various versions of the story. What differences and similarities do you see ?

- Matthew 28:1 and Mark 16:1
- Matthew 28:2-4
- Mark 16:2-8, Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-10

3. If you can mentally place yourself at the tomb of Christ on that morning, what do you think you would be feeling ?

4. Why is the resurrection important to us as Christians ? Why is it important to the whole world ? Who else is it important to ? Use the following as helps in your answers :

- Romans 1:3-4
- Acts 17:30-31
- Romans 6:8-10
- 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
- 1 John 3:8
- Revelation 12:9-11

5. In Sunday's sermon, we described the stone as picturing three obstacles :

- death – The stone separated the living from the dead.
- evil / wrong in the world and in our lives – The stone was put in place by corrupt political and religious authorities.
- anything that separates a person from God

In light of those three themes, if you're willing to be open and honest, ...

- ... what are your fears about death ?
- ... what assurance does the resurrection give you that the stone of death has truly been rolled away ?
- ... what wrongs in the world, or in your personal life, do you wish God would roll away ?
- ... what do you think He actually *is* doing about those wrongs ? Does Psalm 53 help, and if so, how ?
- ... what do you feel like is coming between you and God right now ?
- ... just as the angel spoke in a very personal way to the women (Mark 16:6), what is God saying to you personally today, through the resurrection of Jesus ?