

TELL PETER

MARK 16

Text: Mark 16:7

(Mark 16:7) "But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you."

Introduction:

We see in our text that these three women were walking to the tomb where Jesus had been buried early in the morning. They were bringing spices to anoint the Lord with. I suppose these women were like most women, they were carrying on a conversation with each other concerning how and who was going to roll the stone from in front of the tomb.

Now I'm not sure if they were thinking clearly or not, but they had either forgot that the Lord had told them that he wasn't planning on staying in that tomb but only three days, or they did really believe Him.

Whatever the case let me say, that unbelief leads to worrying. You see the very thing that they were worrying about was already taken care of.

So when they arrive at the tomb they soon see that the stone was already moved. So as they entered the tomb they find an angel sitting there, and of course they become frightened.

Throughout the Bible, God used angels to make special announcements to humans. For instance, He used an angel to:

1. Send a message of destruction to Lot in Sodom (Genesis 19)
2. Announce the birth of Samson (Judges 13)
3. Announce the birth of John the Baptist (Luke 1)
4. Announce the conception of Christ (Luke 1:11)
5. Announce the birth of Christ (Luke 2:8-14)

It seems that when God has an announcement of extreme importance, He often sends that message through an angel.

The angel told them that there was nothing to be afraid of but that Jesus was no longer there.

He then gives them a commission to go and tell the disciples and Peter and reminds them that Christ had already said what was going to take place.

Notice this command. They were to be sure to tell Peter. Why was it that Peter was the only one mentioned by name to be told?

1. PETER NEEDED TO KNOW THAT HE WAS NOT FORSAKEN (14:22-72)

A. Jesus had prepared His disciples for what was ahead.

1. The Crucifixion (vss 22-25)

(Mark 14:22-25) "And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body. {23} And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. {24} And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. {25} Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

2. The Persecution (vss 27)

(Mark 14:27) "And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered."

3. The resurrection (vss 28)

(Mark 14:28) "But after that I am risen, I will go before you into Galilee."

B. Peter vowed never to be offended. (vss 29-32)

(Mark 14:29-32) "But Peter said unto him, Although all shall be offended, yet will not I. {30} And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. {31} But he spake the more vehemently, If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee in any wise. Likewise also said they all. {32} And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray."

C. Peter had broken that vow. (vss 53-72)

(Mark 14:53-72) "And they led Jesus away to the high priest: and with him were assembled all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes. {54} And Peter

followed him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire. {55} And the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against Jesus to put him to death; and found none. {56} For many bare false witness against him, but their witness agreed not together. {57} And there arose certain, and bare false witness against him, saying, {58} We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands. {59} But neither so did their witness agree together. {60} And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, saying, Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee? {61} But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? {62} And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. {63} Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith, What need we any further witnesses? {64} Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye? And they all condemned him to be guilty of death. {65} And some began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to buffet him, and to say unto him, Prophecy: and the servants did strike him with the palms of their hands. {66} And as Peter was beneath in the palace, there cometh one of the maids of the high priest: {67} And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked upon him, and said, And thou also wast with Jesus of

Nazareth. {68} But he denied, saying, I know not, neither understand I what thou sayest. And he went out into the porch; and the cock crew. {69} And a maid saw him again, and began to say to them that stood by, This is one of them. {70} And he denied it again. And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter, Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaeen, and thy speech agreeth thereto. {71} But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak. {72} And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept."

1. He needed to know that Jesus still loved him.
2. He needed to know that Jesus had kept His vow. (vss 28)

(Mark 14:28) "But after that I am risen, I will go before you into Galilee."

D. To fail does not make one a lifelong failure.

1. God's love reaches out to those who have failed.
2. The cross and the resurrection guarantee that love.

(Romans 5:8) "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

2. PETER NEEDED TO KNOW HE HAD BEEN FORGIVEN (VSS 53-72)

A. He had followed Jesus afar off (vss. 54)

(Mark 14:54) "And Peter followed him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire."

1. Following afar off leads to trouble.
2. Trouble starts by distancing yourself for the Lord.
3. More drastic things will always follow following afar off.

B. He had mingled with the enemies of the Lord.
(vss 66-71)

(Mark 14:66-71) "And as Peter was beneath in the palace, there cometh one of the maids of the high priest: {67} And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked upon him, and said, And thou also wast with Jesus of Nazareth. {68} But he denied, saying, I know not, neither understand I what thou sayest. And

he went out into the porch; and the cock crew. {69} And a maid saw him again, and began to say to them that stood by, This is one of them. {70} And he denied it again. And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter, Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaeen, and thy speech agreeth thereto. {71} But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak."

C. He warmed himself by the wrong fire.

(Mark 14:54) "And Peter followed him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire."

(Mark 14:67) "And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked upon him, and said, And thou also wast with Jesus of Nazareth."

1. We never need to get too cozy with the worldly crowd.
2. When we get comfortable with the world, we are setting ourselves up for problems.

D. He had denied the Lord three times.

1. He didn't want to be identified with Jesus.

2. He turned to cursing and swearing to accomplish what he wanted.

E. But thank God, the Lord forgave him and we can be forgiven to.

1. The saved when they sin can be forgiven.

(1 John 1:9) "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2. The lost when they are saved are forgiven.

(Romans 10:9-10) "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. {10} For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

(Romans 10:13) "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

3. PETER NEEDED TO KNOW THAT HE HAD A FUTURE WITH JESUS. (VS 72)

(Mark 14:72) "And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept."

A. He was a broken man

1. Peter had been broken before.

a. When his net broke (Lk 5:6)

(Luke 5:6) "And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake."

b. When his pride was broken (Luke 5:8)

(Luke 5:8) "When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

c. His partnership was broken (Luke 5:9-10)

(Luke 5:9-10) "For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had

taken: {10} And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men."

C. He had left all to follow Jesus (Luke 5:11)

(Luke 5:11) "And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him."

D. Now Peter felt disqualified

E. Peter needed to know he still belonged to the Lord.

Close:

What did the resurrection mean to Peter? I believe we can see the answer to that in 1 Peter.

(1 Peter 1:3-8) "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, {4} To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, {5} Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. {6} Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold

temptations: {7} That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: {8} Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:"

I believe because the Lord didn't give up on Peter, we can see the results in Peter's preaching, and ministry. From this point on we don't read of Peter making irrational statements. But we find Peter preaching and seeing folks saved and added to the church on a consistent basis.

He now knew that God had not given up on him.

What does the resurrection mean to you?