

# The Power of God

Mark 16:1-8

## Discussion Questions

- 1) The women's reaction to seeing the tomb empty and an angel telling them that Jesus has risen is amazement and bewilderment. Why might this lend credibility to the resurrection account?
- 2) Can you think of how other Biblical characters similarly reacted to an encounter with God? (Hint: Daniel 6, Revelation 1).
- 3) What can we learn about the fact that Jesus' opening words to these women is to instruct them not to be afraid?
- 4) What is the difference between the women's fear and the guards' fear? (Matthew 28:4, 11-15).
- 5) Why do you think the angel singles out Peter in Mark 16:7?
- 6) Read Ephesians 1:18-20 and Hebrews 2:14-15. If the incomparable power of God is for us who believe, would you say that this power is a reality in your life?
- 7) What might stop us from stepping out in trust and obedience, believing that the power of God is for us who believe?
- 8) Read the following quote from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian and pastor. He preached this message about the fear of death many years before his own death. How would you answer his underlined questions within the quote: "What are twenty or thirty or fifty years in the sight of God? And which of us knows how near he or she may already be to the goal? That life only really begins when it ends here on earth, that all that is here is only the prologue before the curtain goes up – that is for young and old alike to think about. Why are we so afraid when we think about death? ...Death is only dreadful for those who live in fear of it. Death is not wild and terrible, if only we can be still and hold fast to God's Word. Death is not bitter, if we have not become bitter ourselves. Death is hell and night and cold, if it is not transformed by our faith. But that is just what is so marvellous, that we can transform death."
- 9) Take some time to meditate and pray out Jesus' promise to us in John 16:33.