MARK 16 – AFTER JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD...

VS.11 BUT WHEN SHE TOLD THEM THAT JESUS WAS ALIVE AND SHE HAD SEEN HIM, THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE HER.

 NOT EVERYONE WILL UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.

VS.12 AFTERWARD HE APPEARED IN A DIFFERENT FORM TO TWO OF HIS FOLLOWERS WHO WERE WALKING FROM JERUSALEM INTO THE COUNTRY. 13. THEY RUSHED BACK TO TELL THE OTHERS, BUT NO ONE BELIEVED THEM.

 SOME PEOPLE REFUSE TO ACCEPT THE FACTS; EVEN WHEN THE EVIDENCE BEGINS TO ACCUMULATE.

VS.14 STILL LATER HE APPEARED TO THE ELEVEN DISCIPLES AS THEY WERE EATING TOGETHER. HE REBUKED THEM FOR THEIR STUBBORN UNBELIEF

BECAUSE THEY REFUSED TO BELIEVE THOSE WHO HAD SEEN HIM AFTER HE HAD BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD.

- THE WORLD CAN CONTINUE TO DENY THAT JESUS IS ALIVE, BUT ONE DAY THEY WILL ENCOUNTER HIM FOR THEMSELVES.
- ONE DAY: EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD.

VS.15 AND THEN HE TOLD THEM, "GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOOD NEWS TO EVERYONE.

• THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN CHRIST JESUS CAN NO LONGER BE SILENT. WE MUST GO AND TELL OTHERS OF ALL THAT HE HAS DONE FOR US AND THE WORLD, AND THAT HE'S COMING AGAIN AS OUR REDEEMER, AND KING.

VS.16 ANYONE WHO BELIEVES AND IS BAPTIZED WILL BE SAVED. BUT ANYONE WHO REFUSES TO BELIEVE WILL BE CONDEMNED.

• TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE - CHRIST JESUS HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO BE SAVED FROM DAMNATION. HE WANTS TO DO THE SAME FOR OTHERS.

LUKE 1:26-38

VS.27 ...MARY WAS ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED

EVEN WHEN WE ARE PURSUING OUR PLANS, GOD WANTS TO BE INVOLVED

VS.28 GABRIEL APPEARED TO HER AND SAID, 'GREETINGS, FAVORED WOMAN! THE LORD IS WITH YOU.' **VS.29** CONFUSED AND DISTURBED, MARY TRIED TO THINK WHAT THE ANGEL COULD MEAN. **VS.30** GABRIEL TOLD HER, 'DON'T BE AFRAID, MARY – FOR YOU HAVE FOUND FAVOR WITH GOD!'

WE ALL NEED ASSURANCE AT TIMES. AND GOD IS THE BEST TO PROVIDE IT.

VS.34 MARY ASKED THE ANGEL, 'BUT HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN? I AM A VIRGIN'

- GOD DOESN'T MIND US PRESENTING OUR QUESTIONS TO HIM.
- TALKING WITH GOD IS PART OF US HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.

VS.35 THE ANGEL REPLIED, 'THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU, AND THE POWER OF THE MOST HIGH WILL OVERSHADOW YOU. SO, THE BABY TO BE BORN WILL BE HOLY, AND HE WILL BE CALLED THE SON OF GOD.

 LIKE A GARMENT TO PROTECT US FROM THE COLD – LET US ALLOW THE STRENGTH/WARMTH OF THE LORD TO PROVIDE WHAT HE ALONE CAN DO.

VS.37 FOR NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD [FOR THE WORD OF GOD WILL NEVER FAIL]

WE DO NOT ALWAYS KNOW WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR LIVES, BUT GOD DOES.

VS.38 MARY RESPONDED, 'I AM THE LORD'S SERVANT. MAY EVERYTHING YOU HAVE SAID ABOUT ME COME TRUE.' AND THEN THE ANGEL LEFT HER.

- MAY WE BE AS WILLING/EAGER TO ACCEPT GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIVES.
- GOD BELIEVES IN EACH OF US. AND AS WE BEGIN TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT GOD'S LOVE FOR US AND OUR LOVE FOR HIM, WE WILL PERSONALLY COME TO KNOW THE STRENGTH OF HEAVEN THAT'S AVAILABLE TO HIS CHILDREN.
- THE EVIDENCE IS ALL AROUND US. BELIEVE IN JESUS THAT HE IS THE SON OF GOD; AND BELIEVE THAT THE LIFE OF JESUS HAS COME TO GIVE ETERNAL LIFE TO WHOSOEVER WILL BELIEVE IN HIM.