

# “A Personal Invitation”

Based on Mark 16:1-7 (NIV)

April 21, 2019 (Easter Sunday)

Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

*Mark 16:2-6*

*2 Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they (the women) 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."*

† **The Resurrection, or the bodily raising of Jesus, not just his spirit or just his soul, is the central belief of the Christian faith.**

*Mark 16:7 - 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.'*

† **Two of the most precious words in the Resurrection story are and Peter.**

† **Before the Resurrection, Peter was a miserable wreck.**

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† **Peter is singled out because Peter was hurting.**

† **When I feel lost in the crowd, God through Jesus sees me as an individual.**

† **God does not focus on the wrong that I have done but focuses instead on my potential.**

† **God through Jesus is always ready and willing to help me.**

*Mark 16:7a - But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ...*

† **The angel is in essence saying, “Go, tell his disciples and \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus loves you!”**  
*(Fill in your name above)*

† **God often works through others to help me.**

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† **God through Jesus personally invites me into his love. Do I accept the invitation?**

## **Applying Today's Message to My Life:**

† What invitations have I received lately?  
- How did I (or will I) respond?

† What invitations have I received from God lately?  
- How did I (or will I) respond?

† Peter accepted help. Do I accept God's help?

† Who has God worked through in my life to show or tell of His love for me?

† Who is someone I need to help because God is working through me?