



Hednesford
Salvation Army
Corps and Community Centre

A Fitting Memorial

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Three Days That Changed the World / Discipleship; Devotion; Easter; Resurrection;
Remember; Holiness / Mark 16:1-8
Marking Easter with our Lives

The reason for memorials

Many people attend the graves of their loved ones or friends to honour their memory, and to sit in that peaceful place to remember and reflect.

Mary lost her son

In the midst of the three days that changed the world, from Good Friday to Easter Sunday, I want us to pause and reflect this morning that a mother lost her son. How did Mary feel? Did she want to erect a memorial to her son?

We have no idea if Jesus' mother visited his tomb. But we do know that three other women visited, early on Easter Sunday morning:

Mark 16:1-8, p.1023

The women prepared a memorial

Their visit is an expression of an intense desire to honour and remember Jesus.

But then:

Mark 16:5 NIV

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.

Their sadness and despair turned to terror!

Mark 16:6 NIV

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.



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In three small words, our world changed for ever.

An abrupt ending

Jesus didn't need a memorial. He is risen!

Mark 16:7-8 NIV

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.' "

⁸ Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

The resurrection isn't the end of the story, it's only the beginning. What happens next, is up to you.

Make your life a living memorial to Jesus

By following Jesus, by submitting to him, by obeying him, by pursuing his purpose for you, you can offer a living memorial to him. What does that look like?

Romans 12:1-2 The Message

¹ So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.

² Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

What matters in the end

Will your life stand for the difference you have made for God's kingdom, the relationships that have eternal significance, all the ways you have worshipped and served your Saviour?