



# Daily Reflections

**April 18, 2020**

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## Scripture

### **Mark 16:9-15**

When he had risen, early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

She went and told his companions who were mourning and weeping.

When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.

After this he appeared in another form to two of them walking along on their way to the country.

They returned and told the others; but they did not believe them either.

[But] later, as the eleven were at table, he appeared to them and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw him after he had been raised.

He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

Mark painted the most negative picture of the disciples while Jesus was physically with them and he pictured them in a negative light even after His resurrection. Even after having been told by eyewitnesses that He was alive they remained hard-hearted, so much so that He appeared to them and took them to task for their unbelief. Sound familiar? We live in a culture where many no longer believe. But we can't just let things remain that way. We have work to do in His Name.

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## Food for your Journey

A little boy and his father were driving down a country road on a beautiful spring afternoon. Suddenly out of nowhere a bumblebee flies through the open car window. Since the little boy is deathly allergic to bee stings, he becomes petrified.

But the father quickly reaches out, grabs the bee, squeezes it in his hand, and then releases it. But as soon as he lets it go, the young son becomes frantic again as it buzzes by him. His father, seeing his panic-stricken face, extends his hand. Pointing to his hand, he shows his son that there, still stuck in his skin, is the stinger of the bee. "Do you see this?" he asks. "You don't need to be afraid anymore. There's no more sting in that bee!"

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, You took away the horror of death by giving Your own life so that we might have the promise of new and everlasting life. Help me, Lord, to show my gratitude for Your gift by living as a faithful and redeemed disciple. Amen