



## **God's Grammar** April 9, 2023

**Speaker:** Pastor Mark Batterson

**Scripture:** Matthew 28:1-10

**Sermon Overview:** Don't put a period where God puts a comma. Death is not the end; it is a new beginning. In Christ, we come to the end of ourselves and find a new beginning in the new creations that we are.

### **Sermon Series Questions:**

1. Consider the miracle of Jesus' resurrection. What does it mean when Pastor Mark says, "Don't put a period where God puts a comma"?
2. What does it mean for you, personally, that Jesus rose from the grave and is alive today?

### **Sermon-Specific Questions:**

1. Seven demons were cast out from Mary Magdalene. On the day of His Resurrection, she was the first one to see Him alive and the one to preach the good news to the disciples. She was the apostle to the apostles. How did Jesus take her ashes and make them beautiful? How has Jesus taken your ashes and made beauty out of them?
2. What was Mary doing when Jesus revealed Himself to her in the garden by the tomb? What were the disciples doing during this time? How can we learn from Mary's example to invite deeper revelation and experiences of God's presence into our lives?
3. In order for there to be a resurrection, there must be a crucifixion. Is there something in your life that the Lord may be asking you to let go of? Why have you continued to hold on to it? What would it look like if you let go?

## Digging Deeper:

- Read Isaiah 61. Highlight the promises that you see in this chapter. Speak those promises aloud over your life and over the life of another person that the Lord puts on your heart. Spend some time meditating on these promises and what it would look like for them to come to fruition in your life and the other person's life.
- Read Matthew 26-28. From the disciples' perspective, what made it seem like Jesus had failed in His mission to bring the Kingdom of Heaven? In the Text, do you notice any differences in how the women responded as opposed to the male disciples? Do you think the women still had hope? Why or why not? What circumstances in your life seem to be final? As if the promises of God will not come true in those areas? Do you notice any glimmers of hope that your heart holds? How can you fan those flames of hope?

## Practical Application:

- Pray through Isaiah 61 this week:
  - Lord, thank you for sending Your Holy Spirit to be with and in me. Please heal the broken pieces of my heart, release me from captive mindsets, take my tears and give me joy, take my ashes and give me beauty, and repair the ruins of my life. Please give me Your favor that I may show others the way of resurrection in their lives, as well.
- Download the NCC app or visit [ncc.re/daily](https://ncc.re/daily) to listen to short, daily teachings M-F accompanying this series.
- Make a Bible reading plan a daily discipline and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the [NCC app](#) to find our plan).
- Check out our upcoming May pop up groups on our website. They are all listed at [ncc.re/groups](https://ncc.re/groups).