

Discussion Questions

- 1. Do you ever struggle to believe that the Bible is a reliable source of history? Why or why not?
- 2. On Sunday, Steve said there are over 5,000 ancient manuscripts of the Greek New Testament that have been preserved. These manuscripts are largely in agreement and show that the message of the New Testament hasn't changed since it was written. This is significant evidence for the historical reliability of the New Testament, MUCH more evidence than we have for any other ancient document. Does that help give you confidence in the New Testament? Why or why not?
- 3. Steve also mentioned that the accounts of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are written as eyewitness accounts which gives them credibility as accurate historical documents. Read Mark 15:40-16:8, what are the elements of this passage that show it was written as an eye witness account of true historical events?
- 4. Does this help give you confidence in the New Testament? Why or why not?
- 5. In Mark 16, even the women who experienced firsthand that Jesus had resurrected from the dead did not respond in confidence and faith. Sometimes the facts just aren't enough for our sinful hearts. What does it take for us to have confidence in God's Word and the death and resurrection of Jesus (2 Cor 4:3-6, 1 Cor 2:6-14, Eph 2:1-5)?
- 6. Although Mark's gospel doesn't tell us, we know from the other gospels and from history that the women eventually believed and told others about Jesus' resurrection. Mark's gospel ends in a way that asks us what we will do. Will we be silent and fearful too? Or will we confidently tell others about our risen Saviour who died for our sins? How are you doing with sharing your faith? Why is it hard?
- 7. Is there one person you have been wanting to share the gospel with? Will you commit to doing it this week?
- 8. Pray together for boldness and confidence. And pray for the people you mentioned, that God will prepare them to hear the gospel and save them.