Gospel of Mark
Lesson 65 "The Veil Was Torn"

I. Introduction — We are continuing our series through the "Gospel of Mark" this morning as we study the life and Ministry of Jesus.

A. Today, we're going to look at what Jesus opened up for us at the cross. He made it possible for the Holy Spirit to live in us!

1. When His presence came to live in us, His power came with Him. The same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead now lives in us! **Romans 8:11.**
2. And it was all by grace! We didn't earn His presence or His power by our performance. We received them because of what Jesus did at the cross.

II. The Veil Was Torn

A. **Mark 15:37-47**

1. ***Verse 37*** According to **John 19:30** Jesus cried out "It is finished" as He died! The Old Covenant was finished so the New could come!
2. ***Verse 38*** The veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The presence of God in the Holy of Holies dwelt behind this veil, which was approximately 4 inches thick (would have been very hard for a human to tear from the bottom up), but the Bible says it was torn from the top to the bottom, which meant **only God could have done this!**
    a. The veil was torn from top to bottom; that's grace! We didn't earn our way into God's presence by our performance; Jesus opened the way! **Point 1 - Access to God's presence is entirely based on Jesus's performance, not our own under the New Covenant.**
    b. Personal testimony about trying to earn God's power led to frustration.
    c. **Matthew 27:51-53** says there was an earthquake when this happened. Tremendous show of God's resurrection power! **Dead saints were raised and began to walk in Jerusalem.** Ex: David
    d. What does this mean to us? We are now the temple of God and the power that was once behind the veil now dwells in us - **Romans 8:11**. **Point 2 - You are now a walking, talking Ark of the Covenant.**
        i. **Joshua 3:13-16** The priests carrying the Ark stepped into the Jordan, the waters parted! The power of Breakthrough is in us!
        ii. **2 Samuel 6:11** Obed-Edom's house was blessed and had favor because of the presence of God. Ex: Sales example
3. ***Verse 39*** Even the centurion who put Jesus to death could not deny the true power of God and he believed. Ex: My testimony of seeing a woman get out of a wheelchair at 12. I couldn't not believe in God at that point.

4. ***Verses 40–41*** These women had followed Jesus and were eyewitnesses to His death. They also saw where He was buried and later found the tomb empty. **This really happened! Jesus died and rose again.**

a. These eyewitness accounts give us powerful evidence of the greatest miracle of all time—Jesus rose from the dead, just as He said He would!

b. If we can trust Him about His resurrection, we can trust what He said about everything else—including creation, Noah, King David, and the fact we now have resurrection power within us.

5. ***Verses 42–45*** Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council who was waiting for God's kingdom, asked Pilate for Jesus' body.

a. **John 19:38** says he had followed Jesus secretly because of fear, but now His faith became public! **He stepped forward to honor Jesus when after the crucifixion - quite possibly because of the power on display.**

b. Pilate marveled at Jesus' death with the centurion before releasing His body (Some people hung on the cross for over a week). Jesus truly died and it was verified by both friend and enemies. His resurrection would demonstrate His victory over death for all of us!

6. ***Verses 46–47*** Joseph wrapped Jesus' body in linen and placed Him in his own tomb, while witnesses verified He was buried in the tomb.

a. After Jesus was buried, the tomb was sealed under Pilate's authority and guarded. Anyone who tampered with it would be defying Roman authority. **Matthew 27:65–66.**

b. Rome sealed the tomb and posted guards. The disciples couldn't take Him, His enemies wanted Him to stay there, and a man barely surviving crucifixion wasn't moving that stone and getting past those soldiers. In the natural, there was no way out, but because of resurrection power, **Rome could seal the tomb but Jesus came out!**

c. **Matthew 28:2** This is the power of resurrection!

i. Testimony from Monday night about words of knowledge and healings. We operate in this power because we know it's been made available to us. We aren't begging for it.

ii. Children learning who they are in Christ and laying on hands on the sick and seeing them get healed based on the things are kids are taught in Kids Life.

d. The key to walk in this is the renewed mind. **Ephesians 4:17-18, 23**.

III. Conclusion - Because of what Jesus did at the cross, we now have resurrection power living on the inside of us. We don't need Him to do anything new or more, we have resurrection power on the inside of us and just need to acknowledge it and release it by faith.

A. Alter Call

B. Pray