

March 31 to April 6

Women's Work

**I assure you that unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it can only be a single seed. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.**

(John 12:24)

## One-off!

“But if it dies, it bears much fruit“. Really! This parable is talking about Jesus' death. That was the only way that Christianity could become what it is today. Only because God had not intervened to prevent this death from happening, are we able to experience his love.

What message would the tiny baby Jesus have been able to pass on? Those who visited the stable went away and carried on with their lives. The story of the new-born king would soon be forgotten. What would remain of the miracle-worker who was just one of many? Those who were healed would be satisfied to live their new or new-found lives; the sinners would maybe try not to sin anymore; the Pharisees would think the commotion about this man will die down –

all the talk about him will stop. Was there anything much that could happen? How quickly do people get used to the extraordinary...or forget the sensational? Even a crucifixion was at that time just an everyday event. What does one more or one less matter? But that this man rises from the dead..cheats death itself...meets his disciples again as a human being... gives them new instructions...this is a “one-off“ in the history of the world. Such a thing had never happened before, nor has it happened since!

Jesus had to die and rise again, in order to become that which he is today for you and for me...and for the whole world!

*Judith-Baader-reissing*

Contact: [judith.bader-reissing@emk.de](mailto:judith.bader-reissing@emk.de)

Translation: Chris Woodhead

## I GIVE THANKS

- for God's great love which was brought to life in Jesus
- for the people who share this love with others
- for the women in our church who work voluntarily, freely giving their time and strength

## I PRAY

- for those in preaching and pastoral work, that they may receive joy, strength and the right words to use
- for the women who work voluntarily in our churches; that they may find the courage sometimes to say „no“ when the work becomes too much, and they are in danger of being stretched beyond their limits

## Women's Work

Women's Work wants to encourage women to shape their lives out of the fullness of God. Among other ways this goal will be achieved by stimulating personal faith and spiritual life in our churches; helping women and girls to find their identity as people loved by God; helping them to positively shape their interpersonal relationships.

## Contact:

EmK Women's Work

Giebelstraße 16

70499 Stuttgart

Phone: 0711 8600670

E-Mail: [geschaeftsstelle@emk-frauen.de](mailto:geschaeftsstelle@emk-frauen.de)

Web: [www.emk-frauen.de](http://www.emk-frauen.de)