

The Gospel of Mark

Mark 1-8

Mark 9-16

_____?

_____?

Mark 8:27-38

_____, _____ and _____ shall we _____?

Why Must?

Jesus came as a _____
 because only a _____ can _____ us

Big Idea

The cross isn't merely the _____ of our salvation it's the
 _____ of our salvation.

MY NEXT STEP IS TO. . .

- ☐ Begin to follow Jesus as my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- ☐ Memorize Mark 8:34
- ☐ Ask Jesus to open my eyes that I might come to know who He is
- ☐ Commit to read some portion of the gospels daily to grow in my understanding of Jesus the Messiah
- ☐ Look for opportunities to share the good news that Jesus is Messiah with my lips *and* through my life



Who Do you Say That Jesus Is? - Mark 8:27-38

"Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"²⁸ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."²⁹ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."³⁰ Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.³²

He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Mark 8:27-38

The Gospel of Mark

Mark 1-8

Mark 9-16

Who Is Jesus?

How will He reign?

The Messiah

From the Cross

Mark 8:27-38

Who, How and How shall we live

Why Must?

Jesus came as a suffering Messiah
 because only a suffering Messiah can save us

Big Idea

The cross isn't merely the grounds of our salvation it's the shape of our salvation.

MY NEXT STEP IS TO. . .

- Begin to follow Jesus as my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- Memorize Mark 8:34
- Ask Jesus to open my eyes that I might come to know who He is
- Commit to read some portion of the gospels daily to grow in my understanding of Jesus the Messiah
- Look for opportunities to share the good news that Jesus is Messiah with my lips *and* through my life



Who Do you Say That Jesus Is? - Mark 8:27-38

"Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"²⁸ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."²⁹ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."³⁰ Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.³²

He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Mark 8:27-38

Discussion Questions - Week #3

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the weekend sermon, "Who Do You Say That Jesus Is?" summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

In Mark 8:27, Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" If someone were to ask the different people in your life who you are, how would you want them to respond?

Do you think the way others might describe you is different as a follower of Jesus than before you became a follower of Jesus?

In Mark 8:34, Jesus defined a Christian as someone who takes up their cross and denies themselves. How does that definition compare to most contemporary ideas of what it means to be a Christian?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Philippians 3:1-14. How would you summarize this passage in your own words?

How does Paul exemplify a willingness to lose his life for the gospel?

In verses 4-6, Paul discusses several things he could have leaned on for his sense of worth and identity. Why do you think he so gladly surrendered them?

What "gains" (V.6) are most challenging for you to view as loss?

Is there any encouragement in this passage that you want to put into practice this week?

2. In Mark 8 this weekend, we heard Peter's first confession; in Acts 2, we hear Peter preach his first sermon. Read Acts 2:22-38. What stands out to you?

Who does Peter tell us Jesus is in this passage, and how does He do so?

Jesus responded to Peter's confession in Mark 8:30 "Don't tell anyone," why do you think it's acceptable now that Peter tell everyone?

How is Peter's sermon an example of his willingness to take up his cross?

Where do you need to show greater boldness and desire to take up your cross?

FOR PRACTICE

Take some time this week to reread Mark 8:27-38. Then, prayerfully reflect on your life in light of this passage. Most of us would likely answer Jesus' question as Peter did, "You are the Messiah!" But beyond our lips, who do our lives confess that Jesus is? Does the way I spend my time and money line up with the confession of my mouth? Do my hopes and dreams line up with my confession? If not, pray that God would help you to align the confession of your life with the confession of your lips.

SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for our mission partners in India. Pray that God would give them health to continue running the race He has called them to! Praise God that the Spirit is leading them in fruitful ministry among their Muslim neighbors. That said, the enemy does not give up territory easily. Pray for their protection and the continued advancement of the Kingdom.

40 DAY EASTER CHALLENGE

1. PRAY

Pray for three unchurched individuals whom you will be inviting to join us in person or online for our Easter services.

Attend our prayer huddle for our Easter outreach to the unchurched on Sunday, March 17.

2. INVITE

Give out three invite cards to ERBC's Easter Worship Services to your family, friends, co-workers and classmates. Cards will be distributed through the Worship Folder at our on campus worship services during the Easter season.

Send an e-vite to your friends and family through our website or by sharing a Facebook invitation.

3. SERVE

Sign-up to serve at our on campus Easter services or serve as an online chat host for one of our streaming services.

4. READ

Do a Bible reading plan for the next 40 days to prepare your heart for Easter. If you're not already doing a Bible reading plan, you can sign-up for a "Lent" Bible reading plan at www.bible.com or download YouVersion app on your smartphone.

For short inspirational messages based on God's word, subscribe to receive our daily ERBC video devotionals through our ERBC App or subscribe to us on Youtube.

5. FAST

Intentionally give up something you value which is ultimately of little value (ex: sweets, coffee, TV, radio, social media, etc.) so that you can feast on God and His Word during this season.

6. SACRIFICE

Give of your time, talent, treasure, testimony and touch to help ERBC make the greatest kingdom impact this Easter. Remember, even some small things can make a big difference: Park offsite to free up space in our parking lot on Easter. Consider worshipping online, in order that you can serve during your normal worship time.

7. ENGAGE

Attend our Palm Sunday (March 24) and Good Friday (March 29) worship services during Holy Week as a means of preparing your heart to celebrate the good news of Christ's resurrection.



1. PRAY

2. INVITE

3. SERVE

4. READ

5. FAST

6. SACRIFICE

7. ENGAGE