

Sermon Questions

Taking Sin Seriously

Mark 9:42-48

Pastor Jeff Hinds

CONNECT;

- Do you recall a particular situation when you carried a grave responsibility? How did that go, and what was it like for you?

GROW:

- Read Mark 9:42-48. What are the two types of “little ones” that verse 42 may refer to? What are various ways that either type can be led into sin by those who are adults or who are “older” in the faith (see Ephesians 6:4, 1 Corinthians 8:12-13)?
- How seriously do you need to take what you say and do when it comes especially to children or those who are young in the faith? Please explain
- What are the three “categories” of sin Jesus mentions in Mark 9:43-47? What is a fourth category of sin that Jesus mentions at another time (see Matthew 5:28 -- also James 4:1-2)?
- What does Jesus teach us about our attitude toward sin (Mark 9:42-48)?
- How does our culture tend to think about and speak about Hell? What things does Scripture teach us about the nature of Hell (see Mark 9:28; Matthew 25:30, 41, 46; Revelation 21:8)?
- What did Jesus come to do about sin (see Luke 19:10, 2 Corinthians 5:21)? And what is the result for all who respond to Him in faith (see Romans 8:1)?

GO:

- Do you treasure Jesus Christ? Please explain. If you understand that you have been rescued from condemnation and Hell, what will you be inclined to feel and do?

Sermon Notes

Taking Sin Seriously

Mark 9:42-48

Pastor Jeff Hinds

1. God calls for His people to rightly divide scripture (Mark 9:42; James 3:1). This refers to the essentials of faith including:

- Inerrancy, inspiration, and canon
- Trinity—The Godhead is infinitely Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Hypostatic Union of Christ—fully God and fully man
- Salvation by faith in Christ alone—justification and the lifelong process of growing in Christ (sanctification)
- Incarnation of Jesus
- Attributes of God and His perfections
- Return of Christ; literal, eternal Heaven and Hell
- God’s morals and ethics
- The bride of Christ is His Church of which He is the Head. The church is His primary vehicle for local and global evangelism.

2. God calls for His people to guard what we allow our hands to touch (Mark 9:43), our legs to walk toward (Mark 9:45), and our eyes to see (Mark 9:47). When we loiter around sin looking at it, walking towards it, and toying with it, we may well embrace sin. Sin often comes with a nasty payback policy.

3. God makes it clear that the only remedy for our sin is to accept, by faith, Jesus as our Savior and Lord. We need to agree with God that we are sinners (confession), and empowered by God’s Spirit, begin to turn from sin (repentance). By faith we must accept Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection along as the sole payment for our sin and the means by which we are justified—declared righteous in the sight of God. (Romans 3:23; 6:23; 10:9–10; Ephesians 2:8–9). Having received Jesus as Savior and Lord, and now empowered by God’s Spirit within us, we are to turn more and more away from sin and towards Jesus (sanctification) 1 John 2:1, 3:6–10)

