

Jesus the King- week 7

January 7, 2018

Mark 8:34-9:1

Warming Up

1. If your group has chosen an OBF missionary to pray for, introduce them to the group by sharing a little of the profile the missions team prepared. If your group does not have a missionary yet, chat with Brian Woodruff or Derek Whalen.
2. What is something valuable you have lost in the past? How did it feel to lose it? Did you ever find it? What was it like to find it again?

Knowing the Gospel...

3. What do you think it means to “take up your cross”? Why do you think Luke includes the word “daily” in Jesus’s words in Luke 9:23? (Luke 9:23, 14:27, Matt. 16:24)
4. How would you describe what it means to “follow” Christ? What did it mean for the disciples? How is it the same today? How is it different? (Mark 1:18, 2:13, Luke 19:1-10)
5. In Mark 9:1 Jesus says that some of the disciples would not die until they saw the kingdom of God coming with power. Since Jesus has not come back yet, and all the disciples have been dead for generations, what did Jesus mean? Check out these verses for some insight: 2 Pet. 1:16-18, Matt. 16:28-17:8. In what ways has the kingdom of God come already and in what ways is it not totally here yet? (Hebrews 2:8-9, John 18:36, 1 John 3:2, Romans 8:30, Ephesians 2:6)

Living the Gospel...

6. In Mark 8:38, Jesus says that whoever is ashamed of Him and His words, Jesus Himself will be ashamed of when he returns. How many individuals or groups of people in the NT can you think of that were ashamed of Christ at some point? Which ones ultimately rejected Him? Which ones ultimately accepted and followed Him? (Matt 12:1-14, 12:22-24, Luke 20:20-26, John 8:13, John 10:22-39, Luke 22:54-62, John 18:15-18, Mark 14:43-50, 1 Timothy 6:21)

7. How do you think “denying yourself” and “taking up your cross” are related? What does it look like for a person to “lose” their life for Christ and the gospel’s sake? What does that look like in YOUR life? React to this statement: “He is not fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.”—Jim Elliot

8. What does it look like to deny Christ? Have you ever done this? Share with the group a time when you feel you have “denied” him. What do you think it means to NOT be ashamed of Christ in your life? (In your particular situation and relationships in life).

Telling the Gospel...

10. Who are some people that you could reach with the gospel this year?

11. Spend some time praying for people in your lives who don’t yet know Christ.

