

These questions are provided for your further study and application of the message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others.

Discussion Questions

Date: February 17, 2019

Mark 8:34-9:1

1. When a person commits their life to Jesus, they walk away from other things. What has following Jesus cost you? How is our “cost” different from that of others serving Jesus in other parts of the world?
2. The cross was an implement of torture, death, and shame. How do you think people may have felt when they heard Jesus compare discipleship with the cross? In your own words, how would you share the cost of following Jesus with someone you know?
3. Re-read Mark 8:31-33. Peter misunderstood Jesus’s mission as Messiah. How can a wrong understanding of Jesus and his mission lead to a wrong view of discipleship?
4. Read Matthew 10:26-33. How do these words of Jesus suggest that his disciples will be treated? Where is our fear rightly directed?
5. Notice that Jesus says that his disciples should not be ashamed of him or his word. What are some biblical truths that seem to bring shame in our culture today? How should Christians respond to those who are ashamed of the teachings of God’s word?
6. Mark 9:1 is a passage of Scripture that is interpreted differently by many different scholars and theologians. One thing is certain, the Kingdom of God is present in our world through the church. What are some ways that the church works with “power” in the world today?
7. Family verse: Read and memorize Mark 8:35. Discuss how you can be distinct from the world as a follower of Jesus.