

Scripture
Meditation



February
2026

Mark 8:34-38 NET

³⁴ Then Jesus called the crowd, along with his disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wants to become my follower, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me and because of the gospel will save it. ³⁶ For what benefit is it for a person to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his life? ³⁷ What can a person give in exchange for his life? ³⁸ For if anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Reflections:

- v. 34: Jesus called the crowd and his disciples... “If anyone...”
 - *If Jesus calls ALL people to lose their lives to follow Him, is there any room in God’s kingdom for “Christians” who are not disciples?*
- v. 35: “because of me and because of the gospel”
 - *Mark is the only Gospel writer to add “and the gospel” to this phrase, and it parallels “and my words” in v. 38. What does “and the gospel” add to this concept of losing our lives for Jesus?*
- vv. 35-37: Life/Soul
 - *“Life” here refers to your whole individual person, now and in eternity. What kind of person do you want to become before you die?*