

Lose Your Life to Save Your Life
Mark 8:34-9:1
August 15, 2021

1. Christ's invitation to follow Him as His disciple (8:34)

2. The peril of rejecting Christ, and the blessing of truly following Him (8:35-9:1)

Next week: 2 Timothy 2:14-19

By Steve Sherman, Pastor of Christian Fellowship Church, East Brunswick, NJ.

Discussion Questions

The following questions are designed to be used by parents in discussing the sermon with their children, but can be used by anyone in discussing the sermon with others:

1. What stood out to you in this sermon? Why?
2. In this passage, what are the three demands Christ makes of anyone who would be His disciple?
3. Why must you deny yourself in order to follow Christ?
4. What does it mean to take up your cross?
5. What does it mean to follow Christ?
6. Jesus warns against losing your life (verse 35) and forfeiting your soul (verse 36). What does this mean?
7. What does Christ have in store for the person who truly follows Him?

Going Deeper:

These questions are designed for the believer to use in prayer with his/her Lord, and in discussion with brothers and sisters in the Lord:

1. How did this sermon challenge your thinking, or grow your understanding?
2. Read Philippians 2:5-11. In what ways does this relate to Mark 8:34?
3. There are religious people who exercise a form of self-denial and cross-bearing, but do not know Christ. See Colossians 2:23 and 1 Corinthians 13:3. What is different about Christ's demands in verse 34?
4. How does Mark 8:34 relate to John 3:16?
5. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "Every command of Jesus is a call to die." Explain how this is.
6. What does this passage teach about the Christian life?
7. How can various statements in this passage kill temptations in your life?
8. How should this passage reorient your daily life? Be as specific as possible.