

**“But Who Do You Say That I Am?”**

*Sermon Notes*

Next Week: Luke 9:28-36 - “They Saw His Glory”

**Community Group Study Guide**

For the Week of October 29<sup>th</sup> – November 4<sup>th</sup>

**Please read Luke 9:18-27**

1. When Jesus asks the disciples who the crowds say he is, they tell him John the Baptist, Elijah, or one of the ancient prophets (v. 19).
  - a. What do the three choices offered by the crowds have in common? (see Deuteronomy 18:15)
  - b. Peter identifies Jesus as the Messiah. How is this different from the impression of the crowds? (See Micah 5:2-4)
  
2. Jesus commands them not to tell others about his identity.
  - a. How would the crowds likely respond if they were given this information? (See John 6:15)
  - b. Later, he doesn't rebuke his disciples for proclaiming this information (See Luke 19:37-40). What had changed by then? (See verse 22)

3. Jesus tells the disciples that it was necessary that the Son of Man must be rejected and killed. (v. 22)

- a. How do we know that he was referring to himself? (See Luke 5:24; 6:5; 7:24)
- b. Had this been predicted in Scripture? (See Daniel 9:26) Please explain.
- c. Does "Son of Man" mean something different than "Messiah"? (See Daniel 7:13-14)
- d. Should the prophecy about the resurrection have been clear to the disciples? Why or why not? Was it clear to them? (See Luke 24:6-11) Please explain your answer.

4. In verse 23, Jesus tells the disciples that to follow him means self denial.

- a. What is involved in denying yourself?
- b. If you are trying to convince someone to follow Jesus, do you point this out? Should you? Please explain.
- c. Taking up your cross means to accept a death sentence.
  - (1). Does this refer to actual physical death, or is this another way of speaking of self-denial? Please explain.
  - (2). Can you follow Jesus if you are not willing to endure suffering to the point of death? Please explain.

5. In verse 24, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever would save his life will lose it.

- a. What is at risk here if your own survival is more important to you than Christ's mission?
  - (1). Would your salvation at the final judgment be at risk?
  - (2). Would your present existence and happiness be at risk?
- b. What is the reward promised for losing your life for the sake of Jesus?
  - (1). Is the reward future bliss after the final judgment?
  - (2). Is the reward a fulfilling life here and now?

6. In verse 25, Jesus asks a rhetorical question.

- a. How does this question help clarify what he meant in verse 24?
- b. Is it possible to have the whole world but lose or forfeit yourself in the here and now?

7. Jesus warns the disciples of the danger of being ashamed of him and his words in verse 26.

- a. What does it mean to be ashamed of Jesus and his words?
  - (1). Does it mean to disassociate yourself from him and his teachings in order to be more acceptable to the world?
  - (2). Have you ever done this?
  - (3). Did one of Jesus' disciples ever do this? (See Luke 22:60-62) Do you think he remembered these words at that time?
- b. What are the implications if you refuse to share the gospel for fear of what others might think?

8. In verse 27, Jesus tells his disciples that some of them will see the kingdom of God before they die.

- a. Do you think he is talking about the transfiguration (verses 28-36)? Why or why not?
- b. Do you think he is talking about the resurrection and ascension (Luke 24:36-52)? Why or why not?
- c. Do you think he is talking about Pentecost (See Acts 2)? Why or why not?