

Good News - Mark

Mark 1:1, 14-15; 8:31-38

Also: Romans 12:1-2

Discussion Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
2. Read Mark 8:31-38. In verse 31 Jesus gave the disciples what would've been a very disturbing teaching (as evidenced by Peter's reaction in the next verse).
 - Have you seen or been a part of a scenario where someone gave you news that was so contrary to what you expected?
 - What was that like?
3. In verse 32, Peter reacts exactly as one would expect (probably verbalizing what everyone would've been thinking/feeling), and in verse 33 Jesus rebukes him (pretty firmly!).
 - When is the idea of rebuke good?
 - How have you seen it play out?
 - Was your involvement on the giving end or receiving end?
 - What did you learn from it?
 - Is there a place for rebuking someone (or being rebuked) in today's world?
4. In verses 34-37 Jesus speaks of giving up something in order to gain something.
 - It is apparent that Jesus thinks it's a good exchange; what do you think?
 - Where do you see that lived out well in your life?
 - Where do you not live it out well?
 - What value are you placing on the thing you're unwilling to trade?
5. Here's another way to ask it: In what ways or scenarios might you be more drawn to be ashamed of Jesus (verse 38)? For instance:
 - Does your tax return represent the truthfulness of Jesus?
 - Does your time represent your allegiance to Jesus?
 - Does your speech build up the people around you?
 - Does your heart represent the peace that comes through Jesus?
 - Etc!
6. This is one those passages that can feel heavy, and potentially condemning to some. What passages of Scripture can help you keep it in balance? (For instance, Ephesians 2:8-10.)

May you live for Jesus this week!