

# THE HUMILITY OF DISCIPLESHIP

The Humility of \_\_\_\_\_ 30-32

The Humility of \_\_\_\_\_ 33-37

The Humility of \_\_\_\_\_ Ministry 38-41

The Humility of \_\_\_\_\_ 42-50

**mark**



## Mark 9:30-50

30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, 31 for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." 32 But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

33 And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. 35 And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." 36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, 37 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

38 John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." 39 But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. 40 For the one who is not against us is for us. 41 For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

42 "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. 43 And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45 And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. 47 And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, 48 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' 49 For everyone will be salted with fire. 50 Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

# The Humility of Discipleship

February 20, 2022



**Open:** Would you describe yourself as a disciple of Christ? What does that description mean to you?

**Read & Discuss:** Mark 9:30-50

1. Once again, Jesus predicts his own death and resurrection (v. 31). Why do you think the disciples did not understand him? Why might they have been afraid to ask the meaning of his words? How do you typically respond when you are confused by something Jesus says?
2. Jesus taught that greatness in the kingdom of God is measured by servanthood (v. 35). What are some practical manifestations of this truth still influencing the culture of our Christian communities today? What helps you keep serving others as a value and priority in your life?
3. The disciples seemed to have a very narrow view of who could serve Jesus. How does Jesus view this matter according to verse 39? The expression, "in my [or your] name" occurs three times in this passage. How does this help explain Jesus' words in verse 40? How might Jesus' instruction to the disciples here influence how we partner with others in kingdom work?
4. How do Jesus' words in verses 41 and 42 reflect the great value he puts on the nurturing of his disciples ("these little ones who believe in me")? How should these verses serve as both a warning and an encouragement to us as we interact with other believers?
5. Jesus viewed discipleship as a serious commitment. Given that Jesus was not really encouraging literal, physical mutilation, how would you put the ideas of verses 43-47 in your own words? (*See also Mark 8:36-37.*) What are some patterns and/or practices we can adopt which demonstrate our ownership of the seriousness of Jesus' sentiment here?
6. Jesus warns his disciples they will be "salted with fire" (v. 49). Since salt is mentioned in connection with some Old Testament offerings in Leviticus 2:13, and Jesus has already warned the disciples of his own suffering (v. 31), what is Jesus' point in this saying? Why do his disciples need to hear this? Why would it be important for today's disciples to hear?

**Apply:** How are you involved in making disciples? What can you do to be effective in reproducing servant discipleship in others?

**Pray:** Ask God to help us both understand and delight in Jesus' call on our lives as his disciples.

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