

Like Jesus: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of July 5th

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** to complete foundational questions in the book for week 5 using the scripture below.

Week 21: Mark 9:30-50

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

"A child was the least significant person in Jewish and in Greco-Roman culture. By using a child as His object lesson, Jesus was saying that service involves caring about people, even insignificant people such as children. The same Aramaic word means both "child" and "servant." Jesus proceeded to compare the humblest of His disciples to the child (cf. v. 42). This was the focus of Jesus' teaching that Matthew recorded (cf. Matt. 18:3-14)."- Constable

Notes

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

- Right after Jesus teaches about His death and resurrection, the disciples begin arguing about "who was the greatest" (v.34). What does this reveal about what the disciples expected God's Kingdom to look like? In what ways were they still trying to play by the world's definition of greatness instead of Jesus'?
- Jesus says, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all" (v.35), then welcomes a child as His example. Who are the "little ones" in your everyday life that are easy to overlook? What would it look like this week to intentionally serve or value someone who offers you nothing in return?
- We see in Mark 9:42-50 that Jesus uses strong language about removing anything that causes us to stumble because some things—even good things—can pull us back into the wrong kingdom. What habits, comparisons, ambitions, or expectations most tempt you to measure success by the world's scoreboard? What might Jesus be inviting you to let go of so you can pursue His Kingdom more fully?