



Study Guide

Mark 9:30-50

January 16 & 17, 2021

Read Mark 9:30-50

1. Sometimes we think that if we just had an explanation of what God was doing, we would “get it”. Jesus clearly makes two statements about what’s about to happen, yet His disciples are confused. Looking back now, we can understand what Jesus was saying. How is this an important lesson for us in the uncertainties that we currently face?
2. In **verse 31**, what is the significance of Jesus saying He was going to “be delivered” instead of “captured”? Who do you think Jesus is referring to that will deliver Him into the hands of men?
3. Who is greater: the one with the power to kill or the one with the power to raise back to life? How does that impact what we fear and what we live for? How does **Matthew 10:28** give additional perspective on this?
4. What does greatness look like in the eyes of the world? What role does greatness have in our understanding of significance?
5. How does Jesus reframe our understanding of greatness in **verses 35-37**? What happens if the Church loses the point that we are to be servants of all?

6. The disciples wanted to shut down someone who was not part of their group. How do Jesus’ words in **verses 39-41** help guard us against an “us vs. them” mentality? What happens if churches have a competitive mindset with one another?
7. At times we may not look at the putrid offensiveness of sin because we are quick to jump to forgiveness because of the cross. How serious is leading another in sin according to **verse 42**?
8. If we literally applied **verses 43-47**, we would expect to see a lot of maimed, mutilated people in church. Obviously we do not literally apply that because sin springs from heart. However, what are some examples of taking sin seriously and taking certain, definitive steps to keep it from happening?
9. How should unrepentant sin’s ultimate result as noted in **verse 48** impact our attitude towards it now? Do you take sin as seriously as the Bible does?
10. **Verse 49** says that everyone will be salted with fire. This is not a reference to hell. Salt was used for purification in the Old Testament. Trials, hardships, and persecution are not easy topics, yet they serve a divine purpose for the believer (**James 1:2-4**). How does this give hope and perspective to us in the hardships we face?