

Series - Mark: The Untold Story of Jesus

Week 29: "Live A Life That Matters"

Passage: Mark 9:30-50



Conversation Starter:

What are some of the messages you have heard or received or believed about greatness?

Read Mark 9:30-50

In verses 30-37, Jesus tells his disciples what living the kingdom life looks like, which is really a template for us. How does he describe it through his words and through an example? How is it a template for us to live the kingdom life?

In verse 38, John asks Jesus a question, what was he really asking? What was Jesus' response and what does it say to you and me? He brings the kingdom, not us. How does that change or challenge your thinking?

Jesus refers to "little ones" in verse 42, but He is referring to the disciples and to us as His precious people. He then moves to talking about sin. The Greek word used in this scripture for sin is *skandalizo*, which is a word that means to stumble, fall away from, or offend (also referenced in 1 Peter 2:8). He then goes on to say in verses 43-48 that if there is anything that causes us to pull away from Jesus, it needs to be cut off. How does being precious to Him and His instruction tie together? Is there anything in your life that could possibly be pulling you away from Jesus in some way? Spend a few minutes talking to Jesus about it and if you are not sure, ask Him to show you.

These verses invite us to become sacrificial people in our daily lives. What are things that you have or can sacrifice in your daily life? The life that he is asking you to sacrifice is the burdened life and in return he will give you life in His kingdom. Can you look back and see a time when you sacrificed something that was difficult to let go but now in retrospect you see that it was a burden?

Jesus lived a kingdom life through sacrifice, humility, serving, and seeking and saving the lost, and emptying Himself. Think of some examples you have read or heard through scripture where he demonstrated this?

If you were to take one practical step today in living the kingdom life, what would that look like?

Close your time in prayer.

Resources to dig deeper:

Philippians 2