



THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God



Part 24

"Discipleship & Humility"

11-7-21

Introduction

After returning from the Mt. of The Transfiguration, Jesus had found the disciples arguing with some scribes and unable to cast a demon out of a boy who had been brought to them. Jesus demonstrated His power, authority, and compassion as Messiah by delivering the boy from affliction while also instructing His disciples as to the importance of prayerful dependence upon the Lord. As they returned briefly to Galilee, He continued to use various teachable moments to further prepare His disciples.

Key Point: Because of the human temptation towards pride, Jesus took time to instruct the disciples in the importance of _____.

Lessons On Humility – Mark 9:30-50

Jesus' Teaching Concerning His Death & Resurrection (9:30-32)

- As they traveled again through Galilee, He taught them once more about His coming suffering.

Observations:

- Jesus sought to travel apart from the crowds in order to have time alone with His disciples in order to _____ them.
- He once again taught them specifically of His coming death and resurrection.
 - ⇒ His reference to Himself as the "Son of Man" is again intended to reframe their understanding of the work of Messiah.
 - * *Their expectation of Messiah was that He would _____ in great glory* (Isa. 9:6-7)
 - * *He taught them that _____ would precede His _____* (Isa. 53:7-9a; 10-11)
- The disciples, however, did not fully _____ His teaching and were afraid to seek clarification.

"[They] are not usually reluctant to ask Jesus to explain difficult sayings (4:10; 7:17; 9:11, 28; 10:10; 13:3); is their reluctance on this occasion because they can could guess that the answer would be one they would not want to hear... 'They understand enough to be afraid to ask to understand more.'"

—R.T. France, *Mark*

Key Point: In spite of the disciples' expectations, Jesus taught them that He must further humble Himself in _____ to the will of the Father in order to accomplish His work as Messiah.

The First Must Be Last (9:33-37)

- When they arrived in Capernaum, Jesus asked the disciples about a discussion they had along the way.

Observations:

- Jesus seems to have known the subject of their discussion.
- The disciples were clearly embarrassed that they had argued over which of them was the _____.
- Jesus then taught them that if they were to be truly great, they must be the servant of all.
 - ⇒ He then used a child as an example to them:
 - * *True service means caring for the needs of those that you _____ nothing from.*
 - * *True service involves _____ with God in the work that He is doing.*

Key Point: Jesus taught His disciples to be characterized by an attitude of humility which should be _____ in their care and concern for others.

Anyone Not Against Us Is For Us (9:38-41)

- John then spoke up and told Jesus about a man who was unknown to them but was casting out demons in Jesus' name.

Observations:

- John's words reveal that the disciples were still concerned with their own _____ as His followers.
"he was not following us"

2. Jesus' response to them was intended to expand their understanding of God's _____ in the world:

"the one who is not against us is for us"

"whoever gives you a cup...to drink because you belong to Christ..."

Key Point: Jesus taught His disciples to be characterized by an attitude of humility toward others who, although not of their number, were not their _____.

- Jesus then instructed them regarding the pernicious danger of sin.

Observations:

1. Jesus first warned the disciples of the possibility of _____ others into sin.

"little ones"

2. Jesus then warned them about the _____ of their own sin.

"hand"



"foot"



"eye"

3. Jesus then used the example of salt in order to teach the disciples the importance of being set apart as His followers.

⇒ Salt in the OT is associated with the sacrifices of the tabernacle (Lev. 2:13), those of the restored temple (Ezra 6:9), and those of the Millennial temple (Ezek. 43:24).

* *To be Jesus' disciple is to live a life of _____.*

* *The imagery of fire is likely a reference to the _____ that will be associated with following Him.*

* *They are to evidence that they are His followers in how they _____ to suffering and in terms of how they _____ to one another.*

Key Point: Jesus taught His disciples to be characterized by an attitude of humility in terms of their own _____.

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God

- Mark wants his audience to consider Jesus' own example of humility.
- Mark wants his audience to consider Jesus' teaching about humility and its significance for His followers.
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are to submit ourselves to the will of the Father.*
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are to be concerned with the needs of others.*
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are not to be unduly concerned with God's work in and through others.*
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are to be aware of our own tendency towards sin and our calling as those set apart for Christ.*

Concluding Thoughts

- Believers can be characterized by humility because we are ____ Christ!

Humility in Action

Phil. 2:1-4—¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

The Example of Humility

Phil. 2:5-11—⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God



Part 24

"Discipleship & Humility"

11-7-21

Introduction

After returning from the Mt. of The Transfiguration, Jesus had found the disciples arguing with some scribes and unable to cast a demon out of a boy who had been brought to them. Jesus demonstrated His power, authority, and compassion as Messiah by delivering the boy from affliction while also instructing His disciples as to the importance of prayerful dependence upon the Lord. As they returned briefly to Galilee, He continued to use various teachable moments to further prepare His disciples.

Key Point: Because of the human temptation towards pride, Jesus took time to instruct the disciples in the importance of humility.

Lessons On Humility – Mark 9:30-50

Jesus' Teaching Concerning His Death & Resurrection (9:30-32)

- As they traveled again through Galilee, He taught them once more about His coming suffering.

Observations:

- Jesus sought to travel apart from the crowds in order to have time alone with His disciples in order to teach them.
- He once again taught them specifically of His coming death and resurrection.
 - ⇒ His reference to Himself as the "Son of Man" is again intended to reframe their understanding of the work of Messiah.
 - * *Their expectation of Messiah was that He would reign in great glory* (Isa. 9:6-7)
 - * *He taught them that humiliation would precede His exaltation* (Isa. 53:7-9a; 10-11)
- The disciples, however, did not fully understand His teaching and were afraid to seek clarification.

"[They] are not usually reluctant to ask Jesus to explain difficult sayings (4:10; 7:17; 9:11, 28; 10:10; 13:3); is their reluctance on this occasion because they can could guess that the answer would be one they would not want to hear... 'They understand enough to be afraid to ask to understand more.'"

—R.T. France, *Mark*

Key Point: In spite of the disciples' expectations, Jesus taught them that He must further humble Himself in submission to the will of the Father in order to accomplish His work as Messiah.

The First Must Be Last (9:33-37)

- When they arrived in Capernaum, Jesus asked the disciples about a discussion they had along the way.

Observations:

- Jesus seems to have known the subject of their discussion.
- The disciples were clearly embarrassed that they had argued over which of them was the greatest.
- Jesus then taught them that if they were to be truly great, they must be the servant of all.
 - ⇒ He then used a child as an example to them:
 - * *True service means caring for the needs of those that you gain nothing from.*
 - * *True service involves participating with God in the work that He is doing.*

Key Point: Jesus taught His disciples to be characterized by an attitude of humility which should be evident in their care and concern for others.

Anyone Not Against Us Is For Us (9:38-41)

- John then spoke up and told Jesus about a man who was unknown to them but was casting out demons in Jesus' name.

Observations:

- John's words reveal that the disciples were still concerned with their own status as His followers.
 - "he was not following us"*

2. Jesus' response to them was intended to expand their understanding of God's **work** in the world:

"the one who is not against us is for us"

"whoever gives you a cup...to drink because you belong to Christ..."

Key Point: Jesus taught His disciples to be characterized by an attitude of humility toward others who, although not of their number, were not their **enemies**.

- Jesus then instructed them regarding the pernicious danger of sin.

Observations:

1. Jesus first warned the disciples of the possibility of **leading** others into sin.

"little ones"

2. Jesus then warned them about the **seriousness** of their own sin.

"hand"



"foot"



"eye"

3. Jesus then used the example of salt in order to teach the disciples the importance of being set apart as His followers.

⇒ Salt in the OT is associated with the sacrifices of the tabernacle (Lev. 2:13), those of the restored temple (Ezra 6:9), and those of the Millennial temple (Ezek. 43:24).

* *To be Jesus' disciple is to live a life of **sacrifice**.*

* *The imagery of fire is likely a reference to the **suffering** that will be associated with following Him.*

* *They are to evidence that they are His followers in how they **respond** to suffering and in terms of how they **relate** to one another.*

Key Point: Jesus taught His disciples to be characterized by an attitude of humility in terms of their own **Self-sacrifice**.

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God

- Mark wants his audience to consider Jesus' own example of humility.
- Mark wants his audience to consider Jesus' teaching about humility and its significance for His followers.
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are to submit ourselves to the will of the Father.*
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are to be concerned with the needs of others.*
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are not to be unduly concerned with God's work in and through others.*
 - ⇒ *In humility, we are to be aware of our own tendency towards sin and our calling as those set apart for Christ.*

Concluding Thoughts

- Believers can be characterized by humility because we are **in Christ**!

Humility in Action

Phil. 2:1-4—¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

The Example of Humility

Phil. 2:5-11—⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.