

CITYGROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



Spring Week 4 -(Mark 8:27-38)
Week of Feb. 4th 2018

#CityGroupsTally

REMINDERS for leaders:

Here's a few reminders before you get going: (Welcome back leaders!)

- **Find an Apprentice or Co-Leader.** Be ready to: Replace Yourself & Multiply. My challenge for EVERY group leader is to find someone you can teach about leading a group. Ever since Jesus, the gospel has spread and churches have grown by individuals teaching others what they know. This will also free you up as you hand away responsibility.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **Mark Online Devotional:** Have everyone in your group pull out their phones and show them how to find the City Church Mark Devo's on our website; as a great resource for their personal growth. (Found under the "Grow" tab on our website or www.citychurchtallahassee.com/mark)
2. **Global Missions: LONDON:** (Sun 2/11/18) Join us to learn more about the our global missions efforts with a special emphasis on our partner, London, England. Come out to City Church (Sessions) at 5pm learn about how you can be involved in bringing the gospel to the nations.

BIG IDEA(s):

This week, we'll be centering our discussion on the identity of Christ. Jesus asked the most important question in the world, "Who do you say that I am?". In Mark 8, Peter answer's Jesus is the Messiah. True! But then Jesus explained what the Messiah would be...a crucified Christ; a king on a cross and Peter didn't like that idea. The same Jesus who came to rescue by dying, also commands his followers to deny themselves, and lay down their lives daily for Jesus. This is the cost of discipleship.

PRAY: Ask the Lord to lead your group meeting, speak through the Scriptures and guiding conversations.

READ: Mark 8:27-38

HEAD (20 minutes)



WATCH THIS WEEK'S VIDEO

1) Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” (vs. 27) Who is Jesus to you? What are some different ways people view Jesus today?

2) Describe some things we can learn about the identity of Jesus from Mark 8? (He is the long awaited Messiah (Hebrew) or Christ (Greek), not just a prophet or good teacher. He is the Son of Man seen in Daniel 7:13-14, who will suffer, die and be resurrected. Etc.)

- **What are some ways the real Jesus is different from how many people view Him today? Examples?**

3) Jesus and Peter had a tense interaction; mutually rebuking each other!

- **Did Jesus acknowledge Peter’s confession or not? (vs.29)**
- **Why did Peter and Jesus so passionately rebuke each other? (vs.32-33)**
- **How does Jesus challenge Peter’s view of a Messiah?** (Jesus shocked him by teaching that the Christ would be crucified and resurrected. See Mark 8:31-32, 9:30-31, 10:32-34)
- **How could Peter have been so right and yet so wrong?**

4) What does Jesus expect of us in vs. 34? What does that look like for you daily? (Dean reminds us that following Jesus interferes with your life. This verse is the definition of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.)

HEART: (15 minutes)

1) What are the top two areas of your life where you struggle to deny yourself? Why?

2) Essentially, Peter wanted Jesus to save him Peter’s way; not Jesus’s way. When are you tempted most to tell God to, “save me like this” or “do things my way”?

- **What do you need to give up or let go of, in order to follow Jesus whole-heartedly? (vs. 35) Be specific.**

3) How can it encourage you to know that God used the deeply flawed Peter in mighty ways? Why might this give you courage to follow Jesus despite your flaws?

HANDS (15 Minutes):

1) What are some ways you could include verse 34 when sharing the gospel with others? Why are these themes important when counting the cost of discipleship?

2) What is one practical thing you could do this week to grow in self-denial? (fast from food or phone, drive in the slow lane, give away something you love, pray for an enemy etc.)

Pray: Take a few moments to share prayer requests and pray for one another and your lost friends.