

Scripture Reading - Day Eight - Mark 8-12

Chapter 8:

After Jesus feeds four thousand, what did the Pharisees want from Jesus? What is ironic about this? What was Jesus' response? What did Jesus then do?

What does Jesus tell His disciples about the cost of discipleship? What, at that time, was the cross a symbol of? What is the cross a symbol of now? What is the difference? Why did Jesus tell them they must carry this? What does "carrying your cross" signify about your relationship to Christ? How does this relate to the question that Christ posed in verse 37? Cross-reference this with Romans 12:1-2. What should the state of the Christian life be? Is your life an example of this? What do you need to change to make it so? How are you going to do that?

Chapter 9:

What was Jesus' example of servanthood? When we receive a child in the name of Christ, who are we receiving? Who is the One who sent Him? What does this mean about our attitude towards children? What does this mean about our attitude towards each other?

In verses 42-50, Jesus gives us a description of hell that He repeats three times. What is that description? If Jesus talked about a literal place that is hell, does that mean it really exists? Name some characteristics of hell that we can see in this section. Does this sound like a desirable place to spend eternity? What, then, are you doing to prevent other from ending up there?

Chapter 10:

What does Jesus say about marriage and divorce? What Old Testament book does He quote from? If Jesus quotes from there, what does that mean about the significance of that book? Do we pay enough attention to the Old Testament, today, to actually memorize it? Why not? What does that say about how we view the Old Testament and the Bible as a whole? How should we view it? What, then, should we do with it?

Chapter 11:

When Jesus told two of the disciples to go find the colt for Him to ride, did He give them detailed specifics? What does that say about what Jesus knows and sees? What does that mean for our lives? How should we live our lives in reflection of that fact?

When the scribes, priests, and elders asked Jesus about His authority, what was His response? How did the group answer His question? How does the question that Jesus asked relate to the question that the group asked? What were they really asking Jesus about? Why did they want to know this information?

Chapter 12:

Jesus begins this chapter with a parable. In your own words, describe this parable. What does it mean? Who is represented by the vineyard owner? Who is represented by the servants? Who is represented by the owner's son? What was the scribes, priests, and elders reaction to the parable?

What does Jesus say is the greatest commandment? Why is this the greatest? What is the second one? Why is this the second? How are these two related? How can we live these two commandments out in our lives? How are you doing that, or not doing that, today? How can you do it better?