

THE GOSPEL OF MARK – LESSON 8

WATCH THE VIDEO

Login to **rightnowmedia.org** and search “Francis Chan Gospel of Mark”.

For this week’s lesson, watch Video # 8 (8 min).

* If you do not have a rightnowmedia account, contact Barbara Scorza at bscorza@fellowshipnorth.net

PAUSE & PRAY

Before diving in, pause and pray. Ask God to reveal himself to you through His Word.

READ & RESPOND

Read Mark 8:31 - 10:52

- What’s your immediate response to what you read?
- Write down any thoughts, questions, concerns, statements, and surprises that come to mind. You may want to write a summary that captures what you just read.

CONTEXT & KEY INSIGHTS

Here, we’ll provide helpful background information and key insights to consider in coming to the text. These are meant merely to supplement your time in the Word.

Placed between the healings of two blind men (the man in Bethsaida, 8:22-26, and Bartimaeus in Jericho, 10:46-52), Mark recounts how Jesus predicts his death three times to his disciples. In each instance, the disciples fail to understand or to respond appropriately and he, then, teaches them about discipleship.

Jesus predicts his death	Failure on the part of the disciples	Jesus teaches on discipleship
Jesus will suffer, be rejected, killed and will rise after three days (8:31)	Peter rebukes Jesus (8:23-33)	Jesus commands them to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him (8:33 - 9:1)
Jesus will be delivered, killed, and will rise after three days (9:30-31)	The disciples do not understand the saying and are afraid to ask him about it (9:32)	Jesus teaches that the first must be last and that those who receive children in his name receive him (9:33-50)
Jesus will be delivered, condemned, mocked, flogged, killed, and will rise after three days (10:33-34)	James and John ask that they may sit next to Jesus in his glory (10:35-37)	Jesus teaches that, to be great they must become servants; to be first, they must become slaves; and that he came to serve by giving his life as a ransom for many (10: 38-45)

** Mark 10 denotes an important shift in Mark’s gospel. From Mark 10 to the end of the his gospel, Mark recounts the remaining events in strict chronological order. (See Mark 10:32)

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SEEK & STUDY

Our sermon series is titled, **Who Do You Say I Am?** As we look to the Scriptures, we'll keep that question front and center, helping frame all we're seeking in the Word.

1. Who did Peter say Jesus was in **Mark 8:29**? What did Peter believe was "the Christ's" mission? After reading our passage today, what do they (and we) discover is the real mission of the Christ?
2. If this is Christ's mission, then what is our mission? What does that mean to you?
3. After the two-step healing of the blind man in Bethsaida, the disciples are involved in eye-opening experiences of their own. Read through our passage and list the various ways that the disciples' eyes are opened. How does this fulfill Isaiah's prophecy in **Isaiah 42:1-7**?
4. How does the transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain parallel his baptism in Mark 1?
In what ways is it different?
5. Read **Mark 4:40**. The term "afraid" in this passage is *delios* in Greek and means cowardly or timid. Now read **Mark 6:50**. The term "terrified" is *tarasso* in Greek and means agitated or stirred up; and, when Jesus says "Do not be afraid," the term "afraid" is *phobeo* in Greek and means fearful. Finally, read **Mark 9:6**. When the disciples are "stricken with terror," the term for "terror" is *ekphobeo* in Greek. It is a stronger form of *phobeo* and means extremely fearful. Why would the disciples' fear be increasing? What is happening to them?
6. Read **Mark 10:43-44**. In verse 43, Mark uses the Greek word *diakonos* (translated as "servant") which implies a higher-powered servant in a household, perhaps even an administrator. In verse 44, however, he uses the Greek term *doulos* (translated as "slave") which denotes a person with no standing and no rights. What do you think Jesus was trying to communicate to his disciples? (See **Philippians 2:5-11**.)
7. In **Mark 10:52** we see that "immediately [Bartimaeus] recovered his sight and followed him on the way." Where was Jesus going? What was Bartimaeus about to see with fresh eyes/perspective? How might he have experienced the cost of discipleship?

FIND & FOLLOW

Each week, we'll conclude with these two questions:

1. How did Jesus reveal more of himself to you this week?
2. From what you *found* in Christ, how will you *follow* Him now?