

York St Small Groups

Sermon Based Studies

SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2019

Speaker: Colette Harrison

Journey to the Cross

The PLAN

Mark 8: 27-33



Please note that these studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday Sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing and supper.

To listen to this message again please head to the York St Website or download from iTunes.

Webpage: www.yorkst.com.au

Question #1

Have you ever been on a journey that didn't turn out quite as expected? Have a couple of people share their experiences.

Question #2

How long have you been on your spiritual journey? Have your perceptions of Jesus changed throughout your journey? How?

THE WORD

Read **MARK 8:27-30**

Question #3

Why do you think Jesus asks for their thoughts about his identity, instead of just telling them who he is?

Question #4

Instead of only asking his disciples what they thought, why does Jesus first ask what others are saying?

Question #5

Do people answer this question much differently today?

Question #6

What do you think it means that Jesus is 'the Christ'?

Question #7

How does Jesus respond to Peter's confession and why?

Read **MATTHEW 16: 13-20**

(Matthew gives a full version of what Peter said)

Read MARK 8:31-33

Question #8

How must Christ's prediction of his suffering and death have sounded to his disciples?

Question #9

How could Peter rebuke the one he had just called "the Christ"?

Question #10

Why do you think Jesus was so harsh with Peter, calling him "Satan" in front of the other disciples?

CONCLUSION & PRAYER

Throughout the gospels we see the weaknesses and flaws of the disciples. Their hard hearts, their fear, their lack of faith, their short-term memories, their pride, their lack of understanding and the list goes on. But Peter's statement shows his heart. He believed in Jesus. The people around were fickle. They followed Jesus for many reasons, many to get help or to be healed or because they were curious. Not so for the disciples. They gave up everything in order to follow Jesus. Why? The disciples believed he was the Son of God. (Matthew 16:16) They didn't fully grasp what that meant at that stage but it wasn't just empty words. They put their money where their mouth was.

Do we? When we are challenged by the world around us, what do we say? Are we prepared to make a bold statement of faith like Peter did? Or do we waffle? Will we truly stand on absolute truth or take a relativistic "all roads are equal" path?

****Pray for opportunities and boldness for each other.***