



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of June 12, 2022

*Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.*

### **Sermon Text: Luke 9:18-27**

***18 Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" 19 And they answered, "John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen." 20 Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" And Peter answered, "The Christ of God." 21 And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, 22 saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." 23 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. 25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? 26 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. 27 But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."***

*If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermononline>*

### **Summary**

In our passage this week Jesus asks the all important question, "who do you say that I am?" Peter immediately answers that He is the Messiah, the "Christ of God" for he had witnessed first-hand Jesus' miraculous power and authority. However, the disciples' understanding was still incomplete. Jesus must also help them to understand that the Messiah must suffer and die in order to save His people from their sins. In establishing His identity and purpose, Jesus makes it clear that everyone who believes in Him, must similarly forsake their life, take up their cross and follow Him.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. For the disciples, why do you think it would be so hard to comprehend and accept Jesus' words, that their long awaited Messiah must suffer, be rejected, and ultimately be killed by the Jewish leaders?

2. If Jesus could calm a raging storm, cast out demons, heal the sick, and raise the dead with just a word, why do you think he couldn't just forgive sins by saying, "your sins are forgiven"? Why did He have to suffer and die on the cross?
3. Describe the temptation Jesus must have endured to forsake the cross and instead pursue everything that was rightly His - namely, the entire world and everything in it. Why do you think He chose the way of the cross and what does this tell you about His love for you?
4. In a culture where "being true to oneself" is a high virtue and where magazines called "Self" are sold in grocery stores, how do you think most people (including some Christians) would react to Jesus' command to deny yourself, take up your cross, and lose your life in order to follow Him? What do you think Jesus meant by asking the question, "**25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?**"
5. Who do you think Jesus was referring to in v.26 when He said, "**For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.**" What does it look like when someone is ashamed of Jesus and His words?