

10-30-22 Facilitator – What did the messiah come to do? Mark 8:27-38 TR

1. **Launchers:** When are predictions helpful? When not?

2. **Worship God** for his promised predictions and generosity in giving Holy Spirit.

John 14:16 *I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth... You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.*

3. **Sermon Reflection:** What did Messiah come to do? Mark 8:27-38

DISTORTED EXPECTATIONS

- How is suffering a daunting mystery?
- What was the function of a cross in the 1st century?
- *The world assumes suffering is a threat and a waste, therefore it cannot be of any ultimate value. But if you cannot work with suffering, how powerful are you really?*
- How much of human history is filled with suffering? So, imagine if you can do nothing with or through suffering? Or if you can?!

GOD'S RESOLUTE PLAN OF LOVE

- How did Jesus work against our twisted expectations?
- *Do you really understand your need?*
- *Does Jesus' suffering and death make sense?*
- How is it comforting that God keeps His Word to His own hurt?

AND THE PREVAILING HOPE

- Even through all of Jesus' predictions of anguish, how is there still hope?
- "As the LORD lives" = an O.T. oath, almost always related to fighting evil. *So as the Lord Jesus lives, how do you need His work to fight evil in your life?*

4. **Kingdom Centered Prayer:**

1. Worship the LORD for His trustworthiness, *especially in the face of all the world's promises that are never kept.* Praise God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit that He can be trusted to keep His Word even to His own hurt.

2. How have you sought to live without ever having to suffer? Confess your fears and folly to Jesus, asking Him to not only forgive you but also to secure you, eternally changing your heart by His love.

3. Give thanks to Jesus for His resolve to satisfy justice for sinners like us who have rebelled. And thank Him for His work through suffering and death to *conquer* death by first dying and then being raised to life.

4. Who do you know that is baffled by God's plan to work through death and resurrection? Pray for them, asking the Lord to open their eyes to the realities of evil *and* Jesus' power to save them from their sin and unbelief.

5. *Ask the Holy Spirit to give you insight and confidence in Jesus' promises to raise you to new life with Him.* Pray for joy and hope in Jesus' guarantee that must be raised – and that He will resurrect us as He was resurrected.

5. **Mission:** Hope in the presence of evil.

- How are you experiencing spiritual warfare?
- How are you growing in humility, faith, love and wonder through your battle with evil?
- How does the experience of dying daily make you fearless in the battle with evil?
- How can you bless and encourage your friends and family in the skill of living joyfully in the fight with evil?