

Dig Deeper @Home – “What Child is This?”

Complement to lesson on 02/04/2024 – “Mark 9”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. If you could be president of the US for a day, what would you do?
2. Have you ever fasted before? What was the purpose and what did you experience?

MEMORIZE – Mark 8: 27-30

And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

READ – Read Mark 9: 14-32 & 38-50

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit cause to “jump off the page” as you read?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
 - c. What are the verses revealing about God? About people?
In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. In verse 15, why was the crowd “greatly amazed” when they saw Jesus?
3. What do you think of the dialogue between Jesus and the boy’s father in verses 16-24?
 - a. What do you find relatable about what the father says?
4. What is Jesus saying in verses 42-50?
 - a. How does He want us to live this out?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY –

Option 1 – Serving Others

Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and **servant of all**” (Mark 9:35) Put this into practice this week. How? By being a servant to those around you. Find little ways, big ways and every size way in between to serve people where you live, work, study and play.

Option 2 – Prayer and fasting

In Mark 9: 14-29, the disciples are unable to cast out a demon and Jesus tells them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.” Take time to inspect your own life ... your heart, motives, etc. What sin or temptation do you struggle with? Take Jesus at his word and fight back against this sin by fasting and praying. If able, go on this journey with another follower of Christ that you trust. The journey is always better with another.

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Put on the Garments of Praise - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6cNIHUhTqY>

I Am Thine, O Lord – Mennonite Hymnal #581

At Your Name - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=il-bjjeiOhY>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the message:

O LORD, helps us to listen to you this week. Holy Spirit, help us to be more than fans of Jesus but followers of Jesus, living out his callings and commands in the places we live, work, study and play.