

**Series:** Divine Paradox

**Sermon:** “For whoever would save his life will lose it.”

**Primary text:** Mark 8:27-36

**Discussion guide:**

- Share a story of a time you either saw or were guilty of extreme selfishness.
- Share a story of a time you either saw or acted with extreme selflessness.
- Read Mark 8:27-30,
  - Why do you think Jesus asked this?
  - What did Peter mean by “Christ”?
  - Can people today make up their own version of Christ? explain...
- Read Mark 8:31-33,
  - Why did Peter “rebuke” Jesus?
    - What did this show us about what he believed about the Christ?
  - Why did Jesus react so strongly?
    - What temptation was Peter presenting to Jesus?
  - Explain Jesus’ final sentence to Peter.
- Read Mark 8:34,
  - Explain why Jesus would say this after his exchange with Peter.
  - What is He saying here?
- Read Mark 8:35,
  - What does Jesus mean by “lose his life”?
  - What does Jesus mean by “save his life”?
- Read Mark 8:36,
  - Why are our soul needs greater than our body’s needs?
- In the sermon we said that Jesus is saying “Life is meant to be spent (not hoarded)...”
  - What does that mean and why is it true?
- In the sermon we said that Jesus is saying “Life is meant to be spent on others (not just yourself) ...” (see Mark 9:35; 10:43-44)
  - Why is serving others so enriching?
  - How does selfishness lead to misery?
- In the sermon we said that Jesus is saying “Life is meant to be spent on others for Jesus.”
  - Read Mark 8:35 again – what should we give our lives for?
  - How is spending ourselves on others relationship with Jesus a good way to live?