

# *Wages of Fear*

Mark 9:30-37

# Mark 9:30-32



<sup>30</sup> Then they left that place and made their way through Galilee, but He did not want anyone to know it. <sup>31</sup> For He was teaching His disciples and telling them, “The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill Him, and after He is killed, He will rise three days later.” <sup>32</sup> But they did not understand this statement, and they were afraid to ask Him.

***Fear Paralyzes GROWTH & hinders UNDERSTANDING  
(Mark 9:32)***

<sup>32</sup> But they did not understand this statement, and they were afraid to ask Him.

## *Why They Stayed Silent:*

- **Fear of REBUKE**
- **Fear of CHASTISEMENT**
- **Fear of appearing FOOLISH**

# *How do we push past FEAR in Bible Study*

Use these "Bible Study Methods":

1. Observation: What does the text say? Note key words, repeated phrases, and main themes.
2. Interpretation: What does the text mean? Consider historical context and literary style.
3. Application: How do I live this out? Connect meaning to your daily walk with Christ.

## *Takeaway*

1. Fear may silence us.
2. Fear may block our understanding.
3. But Jesus invites our questions. Asking leads to deeper faith.

# Discussion



1. When has fear stopped you from asking a question or speaking up in your faith journey?
2. What happens when we stay silent instead of asking for clarity?

# Mark 9:33-37



<sup>33</sup> Then they came to Capernaum. When He was in the house, He asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup> But they were silent, because on the way they had been arguing with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup> Sitting down, He called the Twelve and said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup> Then He took a child, had him stand among them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, <sup>37</sup> “Whoever welcomes one little child such as this in My name welcomes Me. And whoever welcomes Me does not welcome Me, but Him who sent Me.”

***2. Fear obscures BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE &  
hinders SERVANTHOOD (Mark 9:33–37)***

*The word “Greatest” refers to:*

- *Who has greatest AUTHORITY*
- *Who deserves the most preferable TREATMENT*
- *Who has the most VALUE*

# *Leadership Aspects*

<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Worldly Leadership (Pharisees)</b>	<b>Kingdom Leadership (Servant Leadership)</b>
<b>Core Focus</b>	Status and being served	Servanthood at the center of everything
<b>Use of Authority</b>	Use fear as a weapon of control	Empower, instruct, correct, & collaborate
<b>Motivation</b>	Self-seeking; seeking human approval	Not self-seeking; seeks God's approval
<b>Approach to Others</b>	Consider themselves better than others; show partiality	Give people a voice; show no partiality (God looks at the heart, not outside)

# *Leadership Aspects*

<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Worldly Leadership (Pharisees)</b>	<b>Kingdom Leadership (Servant Leadership)</b>
<b>Recognition</b>	Love showing off godliness (e.g., long prayers for appearances)	Accept feedback; humble and teachable
<b>Spiritual Practices</b>	Fell in love with positional authority over people	Prays intentionally; knows the conditions of their flock
<b>Overall Attitudes</b>	Self-seeking; seeking human approval	Not self-seeking; seeks God's approval

***Progress over Perfection***

# Discussion



1. The disciples struggles with equating leadership with personal value.
2. How do we see this struggle in ourselves or others today, and how can Jesus' teachings guide us?
3. What's one thing that you can take with you from today's passage?

## *Key Takeaways*

1. Extend grace to yourself as you grow into the leader God calls you to be.
2. Prioritize progress over perfection.
3. Embrace humility, stay teachable, confess and repent when needed, and deepen your intimacy with God through time spent with Him.