



Sermon Series: Mark: Living Everyday With Jesus
Sermon Title: Jesus: How Will They Know?
Date: 3/8/2026

Mark 10:32-34

Big Idea: Jesus speaks - you may need to help people understand.

What kind of man is Jesus?

Man of Leadership

In **Mark 10:32**, Jesus and His disciples are on the road to Jerusalem with about a week left before the crucifixion. Mark gives us a vivid image: Jesus was walking ahead of all of them - pressing forward with purpose, not delayed, not hesitant. He is not just traveling. He is leading.

Yet those following behind were amazed - and afraid. Why afraid? Not of Jesus. He had only done great things among them: teaching, healing, driving out demons. The fear was about where He was leading them.

Jerusalem was the city where all of Jesus' opposition was concentrated - the scribes, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the chief priests. Jesus had just warned them in the previous passage about living a persecuted life. Going to Jerusalem meant stepping into the center of that danger. There was good reason to be afraid - if you were following Him. That tension is not unique to the first century. Following Jesus today still leads people into uncomfortable, costly places.

Man of Authority

In **Mark 10:33**, Jesus refers to Himself as "the Son of Man" - the title He used most frequently, appearing over 75 times across the four Gospels. To modern ears it can sound like a simple human description, as if Jesus is just calling Himself the son of Joseph and Mary. But to His Jewish disciples, this title carried enormous weight.

It pointed directly to **Daniel 7:13-14**, where Daniel sees a vision of one "like a Son of Man" coming before the Ancient of Days, receiving an everlasting

kingdom, dominion, and glory - one whom all peoples and nations would serve.

When Jesus used this title, He was not being modest. He was making a declaration. He was claiming to be the eternal ruler, the one to be worshipped, the rescuer of God's people - and equal with God Himself. This is an early glimpse of the pre-incarnate Christ, one person of the Trinity. The title captures His humanity, His authority, and His mission of salvation all at once. Jesus speaks - you may need to help people understand.

Man Who Knows the Future

This is the third time in Mark's Gospel that Jesus directly tells His disciples He will die. The first was in **Mark 8:31-32**, right after Peter's confession - and Peter immediately rebuked Him. The second was in **Mark 9:31**, and the disciples stayed silent, too afraid to ask questions. Now in **Mark 10:33-34**, Jesus is more specific than ever: He names who will be involved, describes the abuse He will endure - mocking, spitting, flogging - and declares He will be killed. Then adds: "And after three days he will rise."

Again, no discussion follows. The disciples were accustomed to Jesus speaking in parables, and perhaps heard this as another grim figurative warning. But Jesus was speaking plainly. He knew exactly what was coming - and He went anyway. The resurrection is the hinge point of everything. The arrest, the suffering, and the death are all graspable. The rising from the dead is where people then and now stumble.

The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of Christian faith. Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are the most documented events in ancient history. To reject the resurrection is to reject Jesus as Lord, as Son of Man, as Emmanuel - God with us. Nonbelievers today still have no frame of reference for it. They dismiss it. That's exactly why your voice matters. **Romans 10:14-15** asks: how will they believe in someone they have never heard of? How will they hear without someone telling them? Go - and help one person understand this week.

Discussion Questions:

1. Jesus walked ahead of His disciples toward Jerusalem with purpose and without hesitation, even knowing what awaited Him. What does His leadership in that moment reveal about what it means to follow Him today, especially when the path is uncomfortable?
2. The title “Son of Man” sounds humble but was actually a bold claim to divine authority rooted in Daniel 7. Why do you think Jesus used this title so frequently instead of more direct titles like “Messiah” or “Son of God”?
3. Jesus told His disciples three times that He would die and rise again - and they still didn’t understand. What does that tell us about how people receive spiritual truth? How should it shape our patience when sharing our faith?
4. The resurrection is the part of the gospel that people most often reject or dismiss. How do you personally respond when someone challenges the resurrection? What helps you articulate why it matters?
5. Romans 10:14-15 says people cannot believe in someone they have never heard of. Who in your life right now might be ready to hear about Jesus? What is one practical step you could take this week to start or continue that conversation?