

Keep praying for our Japan Missions Team and our students and educators.

Mark 8:27-38 NASB

“Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness,” (1 Corinthians 1:20–23, NASB95)

Takeaways and applications

1. Who do you say Jesus is (v. 29)?

- **Two Questions are answered here:**
 - Who is Jesus Christ?
 - What has the Father sent him to do?

2. Jesus suffered.

We love the “Activity” Jesus, and often gloss over the “Passivity” of Jesus

3. Don’t miss the Resurrection (v. 31).

Jesus is alive! We will live with him!

4. God’s interests must be prioritized (vv.32-33).

- **Peter rebukes Jesus and Jesus responds sharp and quick to Peter’s deception.**

“But turning around and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind Me, Satan; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests, but man’s.”” (Mark 8:33, NASB95)

- **Jesus could not allow a temptation to him, or his disciples, entertaining another plan**
 - His plan is the most important plan
 - His plan is the most successful plan
 - His plans should be the deepest cry of our heart

5. Following Jesus (v. 34)

- **Three demands**
 - Jesus said they must deny themselves.
 - Not denying something to themselves but the denial of self. Ambitions of self.
 - He demands that they take up a cross- the cross is a horrible way to die; pain, suffering.
 - He is asking them to take up the way of the obscure, doomed, despised, in this world

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.” (Galatians 2:20, NASB95)

Follow His Way - the way he has chosen, not the way we have chosen for ourselves.

6. Living the Gospel requires our life (v.35)

- **Mark 8:35** - *“For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.” (Mark 8:35, NASB95)*

Following Jesus is a way of life

7. Don’t forfeit your soul (vv. 36-37)

Ignoring everything He just said and disobeying will cost you your soul.

8. Follow Jesus Christ without shame.

- **Romans 1:16-17** - *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.”” (Romans 1:16–17, NASB95)*

Meditations to pray over:

Is following Jesus a way of life for you?

Is there anything in your life competing for your soul?

What is God asking of you to glorify Him more in your life?

Is the will of God in your life more important than your will? Line them up.

Do you desire more power and boldness in your life for Christ and the Gospel?