

The Gospel of Mark – BURN DAY

Mark 9:42-50 – June 21, 2026

Remember, they are still in the same city of Capernaum.

Same closed-door conversation.

- Humility
- Exclusivity
- Eternal Accountability

Pray and ask the Lord for a heart of humility and surrender today.

Read Mark 9:42-50

Theology & Reality

Let's play a little game real quick

Our theology should not be separate from our reality

Theology

Q: Does God Love You? YES!

Q: If you were the only person in the world would Jesus have still come and died for you? YES!

Reality

Q: Are you the only person on earth? No!

Q: Are you the only person God cares about? NO!

Put them into a Theological Reality sandwich

Q: Does God love you? Yes!

Q: Does God love only you? No

Q: Does God care about you? Yes!

Q: Does God care about only you? No

LITTLE ONES

God's heart for the infant, innocent, and impressionable

Maturity comes with responsibility

STUMBLE: (Shall offend) to put a block or impediment in the way, to trip or cause to fall. To introduce, invite, or entice to sin. To be the cause of distrust and desertion or departure from who ought to be trusted and obeyed. To cause to fall away. To entangle the foot, annoyed, provoked to anger.

Molestation, abuse, or introduce to sinful behaviors or actions.

- To Introduce
- To Entice
- By Example
- By Invitation

Messing with the innocent and impressionable is a serious offense.

Millstone Better to drown to death

400-1,000 lbs.

Used for crushing gains into powder

Imagine a truck tier made of stone.

Summary: Messing with the innocent and impressionable is a serious offense.

Oh man, pastor, your making me nervous.

I don't want you to be nervous; I want you to be terrified.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

“WHOEVER” no exceptions of any kind.

1 Corinthians 8:12-13 But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

Jesus moves their attention from how they affect the faith of other people to how they guard their own faith personally.

Ultimate responsibility.

Hands obvious - Feet observable but more subtle - Eyes sneaky and sly

Read Mark 9:43-47

[IF] it causes you to sin

Not everyone struggles with everything

But everyone struggles with something

There is a progression

Jesus is getting into our personal space (It gets more uncomfortable as He goes)

Slight of Hand

10 Commandments – stealing, violence, drunkenness, adultery (ACTS OF SIN)

Removing the temptation is FAR less difficult than regretting giving into it.

Removing the temptation is FAR more wonderful than the regret of giving into it.

Swift Feet

Your hands reflect acts of sin; your feet reflect your proximity to it.

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.”

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, **considering yourself lest you also be tempted.** – *maturity is owning your areas of weakness*

Come with us, lie in wait with us, we will share and have all things in common.

We rarely FALL into sin. We often flirt with it, provoke it, stand with our toes over the edge of it, and then act surprised and say we fell. You stood and looked long into its eyes. And when the serpent of sin bit it's only because you traveled to near its reach.

- *Dating and watch a movie in the dark (I'm 40 – SO WHAT!)*
- *Hang in the bar when you don't have self-control*
- *Walk by the secretary's desk*

The Sneaky Eye

The eye is less obvious... acts like it has a mind of it's own. SNEAKY!!!
This one gets real personal and real convictional real quick

Luke 11:34 "The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, when your eye is good, your whole body also is full of light. But when your eye is bad, your body also *is* full of darkness.

Lust will burn down your home and life

Covetousness will burn out your husband who is trying to keep up.

Don't cut it off, you have to carve or pluck it out. (PHONES)

Same response every time

Cut it off – imperative immediacy (no delay, no doubt)

DON'T TAME IT, KILL IT!

Throwing Isaac when there was a rattlesnake.

We are better off to live a crippled, mutilated life than one that freely delights and indulges in every desire of our senses. One that ends up grabbing onto temporary pleasures at the expense of eternal, fiery judgment.

Hand causes (HAHA) – it's the heart haha, be real.

10 Commandments

Stealing – comes from the root of covetousness

Sexual Immorality – Lust or the pain of loneliness

Violence – pride or no self-control (City broken down without walls)

The body is just the tool or vehicle the soul uses to accomplish it's will.

- Deuteronomy 10:16
- Deuteronomy 30:6
- Jeremiah 4:4
- Acts 7:51

Pick your hard... regret, remorse, and hellfire are way harder to deal with than unfulfilled desires of the flesh and the occasional temper tantrum of our carnal nature.

Same Response to cut it off or carve it out because they have the same conclusion.

WORMS AND FIRE (HELL)

Referenced 12 times in the NT (always with eternal judgment in mind)
11x by Jesus Himself.

The imagery of eternity is grim

Their Worm: Isaiah 66:24

Heaps of the dead slain in battle

Certain and terrible destruction

Gehenna/Hinnom, south of Jerusalem.

2 Chron 28, 33, Jer. 7

- Under Ahaz and Manasseh, children were sacrificed to Molech.
- Josiah (good king) came along and filled it with trash and made it a dumping ground for the waist of the city.

Where the filth and dead animals of the city were cast out and burned.

Imagine turning a temple into the local dump.

G. Cambell Morgan

All the evil things of the city were cast out for destruction. the purpose of Gehenna, was a purification of the life of the city. Those smoldering fires, destroying vulgarity and obscenity, were in themselves witnesses of the necessity of the sanitation of Jerusalem.

Made for the devil

Matthew 25:41 “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

Adam & Eve listened to the cunning lies of the devil over our Creator God

You go with Satan’s ideas, you will get Satan’s end.

Same path, same destination.

Lake of fire and brimstone

No second chances (everyday is a second chances)

His mercy was new every morning, (no grudges)

The state beyond the grave: Awful & Eternal

What a dreadful conclusion to a life, resistant to grace and lost into the hellfire for eternity.

MARK 9:49-50

THE LORD’S LAMB – David & Nathan

They are not just innocent or impressionable believers.

You are messing with redeemed souls that were paid for by the nailing of Christ to the cross. *They are not your lambs to stumble. They are His lambs to nurture and strengthen.*

(49-50) NO PARALLEL PASSAGE

Preserving and Purifying

SEASONED??? Seared... so close it singed your hair, as if we all go in without eyebrows (MAN THAT WAS CLOSE) If it wasn't for Jesus it would have been over!

1 Peter fire of trials

Fire destroys the perishable and perfects the imperishable

Burns away the bad and makes pure and perfect the good.

Salt of sacrificial preparation (Lev. 2:13) symbolic of purification and preservation. FOR THE LORD!

SELF DENIAL is a major part of the new life we have in Christ.

Our life is a fixer-upper; gladly remove the mold and restore what has rotted away. – **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS SELF CONTROL**

Does your life observably look like a life that is yielded to the preserving power of your redeemer?

Does your life resemble a life that has gone through and is going through the process of purification?

Christ's sufferings are to be embraced as much as His blessings and power.
Bonhoffer Suffering is the badge of true discipleship

Acts 14:22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

Slang term of being salty

Have salt for yourself and grace for each other.

INWARD SALT, OUTWARD GRACE

Peace with each other will be the fruit of being salty toward yourself.

Also, peace between those who disputed with each other and were a hindrance to others.

Rounding out this closed door conversation.

In light of being last of all

In light of being servant of all

In light of not hindering those living a kingdom life

In light of the error or arrogance or exclusivity

In light of the innocent and impressionable, young in faith belonging to Jesus

In light that we can lead others astray and allow ourselves to be deceived.

THERE IS ROOM FOR YOU (HEAVEN & HELL)

Hell is never full... Room for all in heaven, but hell is never full either. Room for you in either spot. You pick. It's not like a gift for your birthday, it's a destination that your Lord will lead you to.

Proverbs 27:20 Hell and Destruction are never full

John 14:2 I go to prepare a place for you... many mansions.