



When Jesus Asks You: What does it profit...to forfeit your soul?

October 1st, 2023

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion.
Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through "observation" leaving enough time for "reflection", "discussion", and "surrender."

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

Take some time to look up and read out loud together: Mark 8:34-38

1. What are the two things Jesus says to do when deciding to follow him in Vs 34?
2. What is it that we try to save but lose, or lose so we can save in Vs 35?

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

How do the scriptures connect to everyday life.

3. How does Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection, model for us the reality of what he is teaching here in Mark 8?
4. Your "Soul" as used by Jesus here, means the essence of who you truly are: The you that God made. When we pursue the treasures of this world to define our identity, how do we forfeit who God created us to be?
5. To "Deny yourself" is one of the carnal sins of our present world: "Be true to yourself", "You only live once" etc. The word used here is the same word used of Peter in his denial of Jesus (Mark 14:26-31). With that in mind, what does it mean to deny oneself when it comes to being a follower of Jesus?
6. To "take up your cross" here does not mean "merely to endure hardship patiently"¹. It was a call to count the cost of following Jesus. In what ways have you counted that cost?

Surrender: *Responding to God's voice.*

7. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We're here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!
Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact the Discipleship Pastor, Chris Kopp, (907) 646-4835, communitylife@changeointalaska.com

¹ R. T. France, *The Gospel of Mark: A Commentary on the Greek Text*, New International Greek Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI; Carlisle: W.B. Eerdmans; Paternoster Press, 2002), 340.