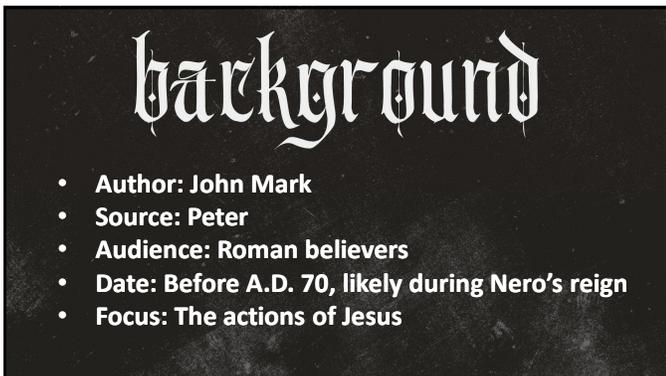


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3

background

Key Themes:

- Jesus is authority
- Jesus is servant
- Jesus is the suffering Messiah
- There is a cost to following Jesus

4

truths

- Faith doesn't deny weakness—it brings it to Jesus
- Activity for God is no substitute for intimacy with God.

5

MEMORY VERSE

MARK 9:35B

If anyone wants to be first, he must be last and servant of all.

6

REVIEW VERSE

MARK 2:17

When Jesus heard this, He told them, "It is not those who are well who need a doctor, but those who are sick. I didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners."

7

Mark 9:30-41

30 Then they left that place and made their way through Galilee, but he did not want anyone to know it. 31 For he was teaching his disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after he is killed, he will rise three days later." 32 But they did not understand this statement, and they were afraid to ask him.

8

Mark 9:30-41

33 They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" 34 But they were silent, because on the way they had been arguing with one another about who was the greatest. 35 Sitting down, he called the Twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be last and servant of all."

9

Mark 9:30-41

36 He took a child, had him stand among them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, 37 "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." 38 John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him because he wasn't

10

Mark 9:30-41

following us." 39 "Don't stop him," said Jesus, "because there is no one who will perform a miracle in my name who can soon afterward speak evil of me. 40 For whoever is not against us is for us. 41 And whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in my name, because you belong to Christ —truly I tell you, he will never lose his reward.

11

MARK 9:30-41

on
HIS
terms

12

context

- Jesus has been confessed as Christ
- The disciples have missed the mission
- They have trusted in themselves
- This failure becomes an opportunity for correction

13

Challenge I: You don't define the mission.
Mark 9:30–32 (Speechless)

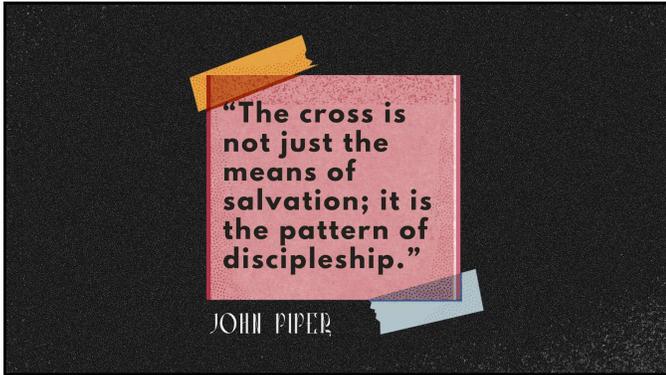
Why were they silent?
 They don't ask questions because they don't like the answer.

14

Challenge I: You don't define the mission.
Mark 9:30–32 (Speechless)

- The cross is not Plan B
- Glory comes through suffering, not around it

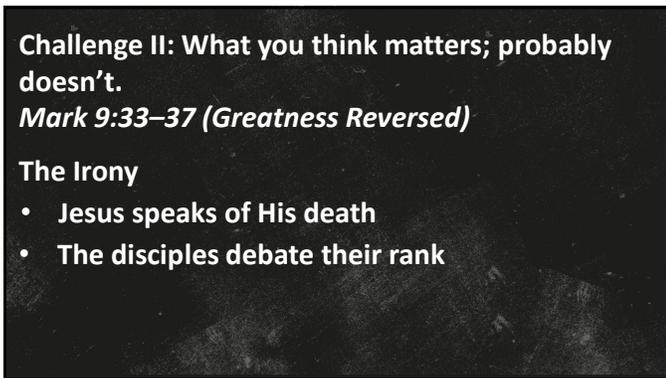
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18

Challenge II: What you think matters; probably doesn't.

Mark 9:33–37 (*Greatness Reversed*)

- Jesus “sits down” → authoritative rabbinic teaching
- “Last of all” and “servant of all” = complete inversion of cultural values
- The child represents low status, not innocence

19

Challenge II: What you think matters; probably doesn't.

Mark 9:33–37 (*Greatness Reversed*)

Welcoming the least = welcoming Christ
 Welcoming Christ = welcoming God Himself

20

“Greatness in the kingdom is measured by proximity to the lowly, not prominence among the powerful.”

ALISTAIR HEGG

21

Challenge II: What you think matters; probably doesn't.

Mark 9:33–37 (Greatness Reversed)

Do you desire to be around the lowly or around the wealthy?

Do you desire to serve others, or to be served?

22

<p>We are called to carry crosses, not climb ladders.</p>	 <p>You can't follow a servant King and expect a throne.</p>
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23

Challenge III: Stewardship, not ownership.

Mark 9:38–41 (When God works outside our circle)

John isn't concerned about false teaching—
He's concerned about unauthorized success.

"He was not following us."

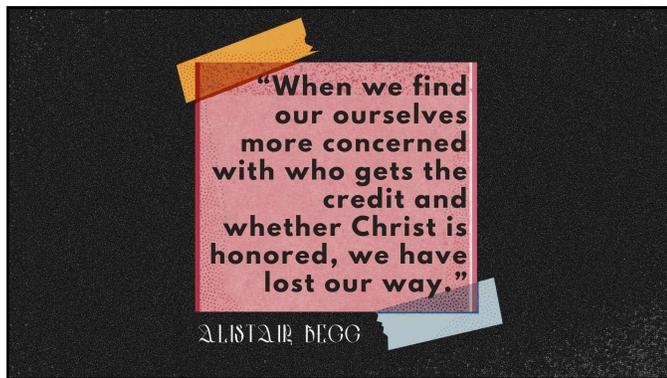
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Challenge III: Stewardship, not ownership.
Mark 9:38–41 (When God works outside our circle)

Jesus' Correction

- **Loyalty to Christ > loyalty to a group**
- **Kingdom work is bigger than our brand**

25



26



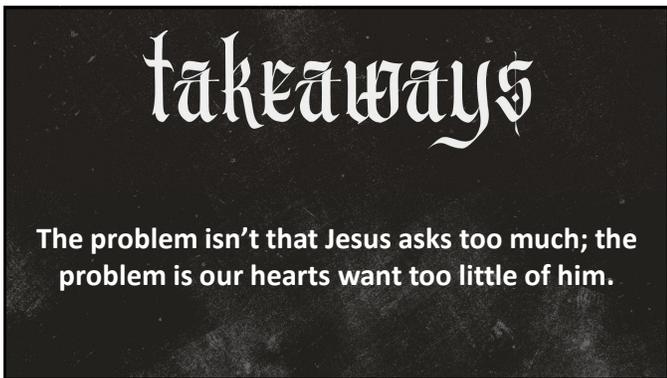
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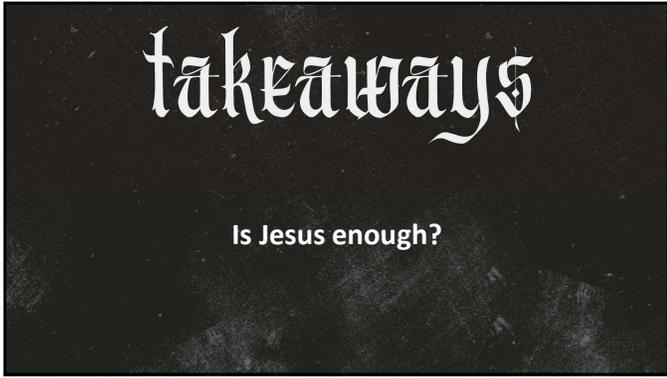
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