

SERIES TITLE: SERVANT KING

PART TEN: GLORIFYING

TEXT: MARK 9:2-29

INTRODUCTION TO STUDY

The gospel of Mark portrays Jesus as a Servant on the move. Using the word “immediately” over 40 times, he shows Jesus ministering. Obedient to the Father’s will, Jesus preaches the good news, heals the sick, teaches his followers, and performs miracles. All the while, he heads toward his sacrificial death on the cross. Mark 10:45 sums up his mission: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” Mark’s gospel reveals Jesus to be the perfect Servant and the perfect Sacrifice. Those who receive him as the good news are empowered to serve in his name.

CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE

Less than a week after Jesus’ teaching on suffering (Mark 8:31-9:1), he includes his inner circle of Peter, James, and John in an event we know as the Transfiguration. Here, the Father both encourages Jesus as he anticipates his coming suffering and shows his disciples the ultimate purpose of that suffering.

FOCUS QUESTION

How would you define or describe what it means to glorify someone or something?

EXAMINATION

9:2-8

- How is this connected to 9:1?
- Why do you think Moses and Elijah are there?
- What do you think of Peter’s reaction?
- What are the indications that the disciples needed to pay more attention to Jesus?

9:9-13

- Why did Jesus ask them not to tell about this until after the resurrection?
- Regarding the discussion about Elijah, consult Matthew 11:13-14. How does this inform Jesus’ answer?

9:14-29

- Why do you think the crowd was greatly amazed when Jesus arrived (v.15)?
- Given that the disciples were unable to heal the boy, what do you think the argument with the scribes was about?
- What indicates that the boy was demon possessed and not simply an epileptic?
- What do you think of the father's statement of belief?
- Why do you think the disciples failed to pray in trying to cast out this demon?

EXPLORATION

- Daniel 7:9-14
- Malachi 4:4-5
- Mark 1:9-11
- Matthew 11:11-15
- 1 Peter 1:3-9

APPLICATION.

- What are some good things that can fragment your worship of God?
- When are you most likely and least likely to pray before taking action?
- Since "all things are possible for one who believes" what boundaries, parameters, or stipulations does the Bible place on that?
- Where in your life is God saying "This is my Son, listen to him" and why?

SUMMATION

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?