

# Into the Life of Jesus

## A study in Mark's Gospel

### Study #13

#### Review of last week:

This last week we looked at **James 1:19-27** together, and then heard from Eugene Au of International Justice Mission speak on Psalm 9 and 10.

- As we think back to our study and Sunday's teaching, what stands out to us – was there something that hit home for us, challenged us, encouraged us, got us thinking or praying? Explain.

#### This week: Digging into Mark 8:22-9:1 together

Take a moment to pray and ask God to open your heart to hear His Word. And then read the passage aloud a few times – possibly in a few different translations.

**Note:** This is the hinge of Mark's gospel – Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and the subsequent announcement that the Way of the Messiah is the Cross.

- Read vs.22-26 again.
  - Talk through the particulars of this man's healing. What stands out to you and/or puzzles you?
- Read vs.27-30 again.
  - Who do people say Jesus is **these** days, and what's behind these perceptions?
  - What has to happen for someone to come to believe, like Peter, that Jesus is the Messiah?
- Note that Jesus doesn't speak about the cross **until** Peter's confession that He is the Messiah. Why do you think Jesus would wait till this moment to speak about the cross?
  - What might God withhold revelation from us? How do we feel about this?
- Read 8:31-9:1 again. Clearly Peter did not understand the plan of God for Jesus or for himself. Along with revealing the necessity of the cross for salvation, Jesus declares it to be essential to the way of every Christian.
  - In what ways have we been confronted with this call?
  - In what ways have we ever **denied the cross** in our own lives, in another, or simply wished it wasn't so necessary?
  - Although this topic can feel heavy (we are talking about death and self-denial), **how is the call of the cross a good thing?**

**Pray:** for one another to hear and embrace the truth of Jesus and the call of the cross.