



“The Big Reveal and the Big Reversal”

September 12

Discussion Questions

1. Growing up, what did you think of Jesus and why? What do most of your friends, and work colleagues think Jesus is?
2. Why do you think Jesus asked the disciples what people were saying about him and what do the replies reveal?
3. In what ways does the Big Reveal of the identity of Jesus as the Messiah relativize and impact all the sufferings of our daily lives?
4. Read verses 34-36.
If the death of the Messiah on the cross is the Big Reversal of all the values of the world, in what ways does that reversal bring freedom and hope to our daily lives? Think of an example of something that the world values that the death of Jesus reverses, and talk about how that would shape your life.
5. During this pandemic, how is Jesus calling you to take up your cross this coming week and follow Him?

Mark 8: 27-38

²⁷ Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, 'Who do people say I am?'

²⁸ They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.'

²⁹ 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?'

Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah.'

³⁰ Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. 'Get behind me, Satan!' he said. 'You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life^[a] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.'