

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

Part 2: Death Brings Life | Text: Mark 8:27-9:1

Mark 8:27-30

By _____, the disciples knew that Jesus was the promised Messiah.

- Messiah would clean out the temple, defeat their enemies, and bring about God's justice. Jeremiah 22:4; Jeremiah 23:5,6; Daniel 7:14
- Jesus was establishing an Eternal Kingdom that would subdue the natural kingdom of the earth. John 18:36, 37

Jeremiah 23:5 (MSG) "Time's coming"—God's Decree—"when I'll establish a truly righteous David-Branch, a ruler who knows how to rule justly. He'll make sure of justice and keep people united. (6) In his time Judah will be secure again and Israel will live in safety. This is the name they'll give him: 'God Who-Puts-Everything-Right.'

Mark 8:31-33

It was hard for the disciples to _____ that Jesus (as the Messiah) had to die, so that we could experience _____ life.

- The idea of a suffering King did not make sense to the natural mind: Isaiah 53:4, 5
- I must suffer, I must die: Matthew 4:7-10
- Unselfish love was displayed so I could receive a new heart: Ezekiel 36:26, 27; 1 John 3:16; 1 John 4:7, 8; 1 John 4:15, 16
- The debt for forgiveness had to be paid: Luke 23:34
- Reputation ruined, opportunities stolen: 1 Peter 2:23
- True forgiveness involves suffering: 1 Peter 4:12-16
- Blood had to be shed: Hebrews 9:22

1 John 4:7, 8 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. (8) But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Luke 23:34 (NKJV) Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

Mark 8:34-9:1

I must get my mind off myself, stop worshipping my needs, and realize that only through _____ can I have true joy.

- We must lose our identity in Christ to find out what our true identity really is: 1 Corinthians 3:16
- My acceptance is not performance-based or achievement-based: John 15:15; Romans 5:1
- I need to learn to die to my agenda and trust a Messiah that willingly gave His life that I might have purpose through Him: Jeremiah 29:11
- "Nothing in you that has not died will ever receive resurrection power." C.S. Lewis
- Jesus began in weakness (human body) and died in weakness (on the cross), but the end result was victory and power: Matthew 28:18; Revelation 1:17, 18
- His death looked like defeat, but it was a seed of victory: Acts 2:23, 24

John 15:15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Acts 2:23 (MSG) This Jesus, following the deliberate and well-thought-out plan of God, was betrayed by men who took the law into their own hands, and was handed over to you. And you pinned him to a cross and killed him. (24) But God untied the death ropes and raised him up. Death was no match for him.

D12 Discipleship Discussion Points

1. Talk about how we receive revelation now in our lives.
2. Discuss what it means to take up your cross and follow the Lord.
3. Discuss the debt of forgiveness as was discussed in the service.
4. Discuss losing your life to gain your life. Allow some time to talk about true identity.

Prayer

Let's be in agreement for family and friends to be open to the love of the Lord this Easter, and that they will be in church worshipping the Lord.