

marked

TURNING POINT

Chris Calvert, Executive Pastor
May 15, 2016

Mark 8:27-9:1

Turning Point: A point in which a DECISIVE CHANGE takes place.

Turning Points come as a result of:

- A sudden INSIGHT
- A gradual REALIZATION

Two key Turning Points regarding Jesus in Mark 8:

1. First Turning Point: Understanding Jesus' true IDENTITY (vs. 27-30)

Who do people say that I am?

- *John the Baptist* – A CULTURAL phenomenon
- *Elijah* – A MIRACLE worker
- *One of the prophets* – A MORAL guide

Who do you say I am?

- *You are the CHRIST!*

Principle: Trying to follow Jesus of OUR OWN MAKING
leads to DISAPPOINTMENT.

2. Second Turning Point: Understanding the true WAY of Jesus (vs. 8:31-9:1)

Following Jesus:

- Requires God's PERSPECTIVE (vs. 31-33)
- Requires sacrifice of SELF and a willingness to follow Him through SUFFERING (vs. 34)
- Gives LIFE, VALUE and eternal REWARDS (vs. 8:35-9:1)

Principle: Following the TRUE WAY of Jesus leads to CONTENTMENT and JOY.

NEXT STEPS:

- I accept Jesus Christ as my personal Savior today.
- I rededicate my life to Christ today.
- Each day this week I will pray and read the Bible, asking God to help me understand Jesus' true identity.
- Each day this week I will let Jesus know that He has overall control of my life.



Lesson Aim: To learn to live marked by the identity and way of Jesus.

Prayer: Open in prayer asking for the Holy Spirit to show you how to go deeper in recognizing Who Jesus is.

Icebreaker: If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you choose? Why?

1. If someone were to ask you “who is Jesus?” how would you respond?
2. When you think of Jesus, what are some of the characteristics that come to mind?
3. **Read Mark 8:27-30.** Why do you think Jesus asked them who they say He is? Why do you think Jesus responded with a warning not to tell anyone?
4. Describe a turning point in your life when you really started to know who Jesus is.

5. Recently, how has your relationship with Jesus affected your lifestyle? Priorities?

6. What is an area of your life or lifestyle that might need to change so that your relationship with Jesus can improve?

7. **Read Mark 8:31-32.** Why do you think Jesus rebuked Peter? What can we learn from this?

8. **Read Mark 8:34.** Paraphrase what Jesus is saying in this verse:

9. What type of relationship do you think Jesus wants with us? What are the expectations of that relationship?

Spend some time in prayer asking God to show you how to really put Him on the throne.

Weekly Memory Verse:

Psalm 1:1. Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.