

September 15th 2024 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B Mark 8:27-35

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' ²⁸And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' ²⁹He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel. ➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition. ➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do). |
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In this week's gospel we see Jesus calling for a personal faith in him, not a view or an opinion but a real commitment to him. We can identify with the disciples as we look at the image of Jesus we carry within ourselves .Who is he for us? Jesus went on to teach his disciples that following him would be hard at times. There would be a price to pay. We often find it hard to have trust in God and have to call on God from the bottom of our heart just like Jesus did when the deaf man was brought to him for healing.

What does Jesus mean to you?

How do you hear his good news spoken to each one of us in the gospel?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for the friends who speak openly to us about 'the Good News' as Jesus spoke to his disciples. They show us how to live our lives with trust in God by their compassion and understanding.

Forgive us Lord for the times that we allow the problem of suffering block our faith in a benevolent God. Many people who loose loved ones to illness remind us that while suffering is never good in itself, it can prompt good actions in others especially the wonderful acts of compassion of those who attend the person who suffers.

Help us Lord by our works to show our faith in you and have a positive influence on all those we meet. Let us co-operate as instruments of God to care for creation and make this world a good place to live.

