Discussion Guide



Prayer

 This week, focus on prayers of thankfulness. What has God done recently that makes you feel grateful?

Introduction

- After a God-given understanding of Jesus' identity, the disciples are twisted by a Sataninfluenced misunderstanding of Jesus' mission. Today, we will reflect on the cost, reward, and call of discipleship.
- Imagine a child at River Oak asked you what it means to be a disciple. How would you respond?

Read Mark 8:31-33

- What do Peter's actions in this scene reveal about the natural response to the message of the cross?
- What does this section teach us about Satan?
- Practically, how can we help each other set our minds on the things of God this week?
- When is it appropriate to rebuke one another?

Read Mark 8:34-9:1

- How is the instruction to deny yourself distinct from popular teaching today?
- Imagine that a neighbor asked you, "What makes following Jesus worth the inconvenience?"
 What would you say?
- Have you ever sought to "gain the world"? What was the cost of that pursuit?
- Who comes to mind as an example of someone who surrendered their life for the sake of the gospel?
- What does this section teach you about the worth of the soul?
- Have you ever battled feeling ashamed about Jesus or his teaching? What helps you feel honored to belong to Christ?

"One Another" ing...

- Each discussion guide this year will feature one of the scriptures' "one another" statements. These instructions guide us on how to love one another.
- Admonish one another (Colossians 3:16) this week, ask the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom on when and how to correct one another in love.