

**This Week's Text:** Mark 8:27-9:1 – The Powerful Christ

**Next Week's Text:** Leviticus 1-7 – We Need a Holy Offering

- I. True Faith is Seen in Confessing Christ (8:27-30)**
  - a. Our Confession Must Not Be Borrowed (27-28)
  - b. Our Confession Must Be Personal (29)
- II. True Faith is Seen in Knowing Christ (30-32a)**
  - a. Christ Taught He Must Be Rejected
  - b. Christ Taught He Must Suffer & Be Killed
  - c. Christ Taught He Must Rise Again
- III. True Faith is Seen in Submitting to Christ (8:32b-33)**
  - a. Submitting to His Teaching (32b)
  - b. Submitting in Our Thinking (33)
- IV. True Faith is Seen in Devoting to Christ (8:34-37)**
  - a. Devotion Above Our Profit (36-37)
  - b. Devotion Above Our Purpose (35)
  - c. Devotion Above Our Person (34)
    - i. Step 1 – Deny Ourselves
    - ii. Step 2 – Take Up Our Cross
    - iii. Step 3 – Follow Him
- V. True Faith is Seen in Responding to Christ (8:38-9:1)**
  - a. Our Response Can Be Damning
  - b. Our Response Can Be Saving

**Corporate Reading Guide:**

This week we'll begin reading through Leviticus to prepare our hearts for the Sunday gathering. Read through Leviticus chapters 1-7 this week and consider: What do these chapters teach you about; 1. God and His Holiness, 2. Yourself and Your Sinfulness, and 3. God's Plan of Redemption.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What impacted you and/or what did you learn from this week's sermon?
2. To be a Christian we must have our own personal confession of the Gospel, rather than borrowing it from others. But once we are Christians, that does not remove the temptation to borrow other aspects of our confession. What aspects of your confession have you realized you were borrowing, rather than truly confessing?
3. Christ – the Anointed One – was anointed to fulfill three roles – Prophet, Priest, and King. How do we see those three roles active in the Easter story?
4. Consider the last time what you believed was confronted by what the Word of God said. Did you respond in submission, or in rebellion – and how did your thinking play a role?
5. How does denying our person, our whole selves, and the public submission of cross bearing work together to allow us to follow Christ?
6. What are some practical ways we can live “for Christ's sake and the sake of the Gospel” in our work, our schools, and our homes?