**Take Up His Cross and Follow Me**

Mark 8:27-38

Key Verse 8:29 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

1. What did the people of Jesus’ time believe about who he was, and what does this tell us about their general view of Jesus? (27-28) How do the people of our time view Jesus?

2. Why was Peter’s answer about Jesus’ identity different from the people? (29) What does the title, "the Christ" mean? Who is Jesus to you personally?

3. What did Jesus teach about his work as the Christ? (31; Isaiah 53:4,5) How did Peter respond to Jesus' teaching? Why was it hard for him to accept? How did Jesus rebuke Peter?

4. What must Jesus’ disciples do to follow Jesus? (34) What does it mean to “take up his cross”? (Galatians 2:20, Galatians 5:24) What is the meaning of the paradox in verse 35? Why is it worth it to lose our lives for Jesus and the gospel? (36,37)

5. Why might we be ashamed of Jesus and his words in this adulterous and sinful generation? (38) How can we identify ourselves as followers of Jesus in our generation?