

The Necessity of the Cross
Mark 8:31-33
August 8, 2021

1. The necessity of the cross (31)

2. The offense of the cross (32-33)

Next week: Mark 8:34-9:1

By Steve Sherman, Pastor of Christian Fellowship Church, North Brunswick, NJ.

Discussion Questions

The following questions are designed to be used by parents in discussing the sermon with their children, but can be used by anyone in discussing the sermon with others:

1. What stood out to you in this sermon? Why?
2. What does the first half of Mark's gospel tell us? What does the second half tell us?
3. Christ said He must suffer "many things." Describe these sufferings. In what ways would He suffer?
4. Why was it necessary for Jesus to suffer and die?
5. Why did Peter rebuke Christ for saying that He had to suffer and be killed?
6. What change would happen to Peter?
7. Why is it foolish to think you can go to heaven by doing good?

Going Deeper:

These questions are designed for the believer to use in prayer with his/her Lord, and in discussion with brothers and sisters in the Lord:

1. How did this sermon challenge your thinking, or grow your understanding?
2. Why was it necessary for Christ to be executed? Why couldn't He atone for our sins by jumping off a cliff, or drowning Himself?
3. Why was the resurrection necessary?
4. Why can't Christ establish His kingdom without first going to the cross?
5. Was there a time when you found the cross offensive or foolish? Explain.
6. Did Christ overreact in verse 33? Explain.
7. Did this sermon give you a greater appreciation for Christ and the cross? Explain. How should this greater appreciation affect your daily life?