

# The Jesus Most People Miss

Part 3

## THE STORY:

Mark 8:27-38

## He is a Jesus who:

- always wants to be in the **driver's seat**.

Mark 8:27-29; James 4:4-5; Colossians 3:2; Titus 2:12; Matthew 21:10

- doesn't want the right **title** with the wrong **assumption**.

Mark 8:30-33; Matthew 22:41-43; John 1:49, 4:29, 11:27

- calls us to a **lifestyle** and **mindset**,  
not just a **confession**.

Mark 8:34; Matthew 22:39; John 13:35, 15:12; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 1:3-6, 3:10-18

- shows us that you can't gain a **new life** without dying to  
the **old one**.

Mark 8:35-38; Romans 5:8-10, 6:6, 8:13; 2 Corinthians 4:11; Galatians 2:20; 2 Timothy 2:11

“Preach the Gospel always, and when necessary use words.”

*St. Francis of Assisi*

# The Jesus Most People Miss

(Part 3) Mark 8:27-38

Food for Thought for the week of August 28, 2005

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

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1. This weekend we saw Jesus ask His followers, "Who do you say I am?" Put yourself in the story found in Mark 8:27-30 and imagine Jesus Himself asking you the same question. Read through the following verses, take some notes, explore around your Bible, and write your answer to Jesus' question below.

## Mark 8:27-30

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

[28] They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

[29] "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

[30] Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. [NIV]

## Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. [16] For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. [17] He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

[18] And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. [19] For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, [20] and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. [NIV]

## Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. [NIV]

## Matthew 1:21-23

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

[22] All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: [23] "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us." [NIV]

## John 10:7-18

Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. [8] All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. [9] I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. [10] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

[11] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. [12] The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. [13] The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

[14] "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me-- [15] just as the Father knows me and I know the Father--and I lay down my life for the sheep. [16] I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. [17] The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life--only to take it up again. [18] No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father." [NIV]

**John 14:1-7**

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. [2] In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. [4] You know the way to the place where I am going."

[5] Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

[6] Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. [7] If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." [NIV]

**Hebrews 1:1-8**

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. [3] The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. [4] So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

[5] For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son;

today I have become your Father"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,

and he will be my Son"?

[6] And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

[7] In speaking of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,

his servants flames of fire."

[8] But about the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever,

and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom. [NIV]

**Isaiah 9:6**

For to us a child is born,

to us a son is given,

and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. [NIV]

**John 6:35-40**

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. [36] But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe.

[37] All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. [38]

For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. [39] And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. [40] For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." [NIV]

**John 11:25-26**

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; [26] and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" [NIV]

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. [2] He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. [3] You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. [4] Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. [5] "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. [7] If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. [8] This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. [NIV]

Who do you say Jesus is?

If you are a follower who admits Jesus is in the driver's seat, how does your life show it?

2. Jesus asks His followers to deny themselves, take up their crosses and follow Him in Mark 8:31-38. He knows we can't do that on our own and gives us all we need to follow His example. Read the following passages and make a list of what God gives us that will help us follow His call.

**Mark 8:31-38**

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. [32] He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. [33] But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." [34] Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. [35] For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. [36] What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? [37] Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? [38] If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." [NIV]

He knows we can't do that on our own and gives us all we need to follow His example. Read the following passages and make a list of what God gives us that will help us follow His call.

**John 14:23-27**

Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. [24] He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. [25] "All this I have spoken while still with you. [26] But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. [27] Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. [NIV]

**Psalms 119:105**

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light for my path. [NIV]

## **2 Peter 1:3-8**

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. [4] Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

[5] For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; [6] and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; [7] and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.

[8] For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. [NIV]

Based on this week's teaching and what you have read, is there an area of your life where God may be asking you to deny yourself and follow Him?

3. Giving Jesus the steering wheel of our lives is the starting point in each of our journeys with God. Even if we have been on that journey for a while, it is good to go back to the first step and remember what happened when we gave Him the wheel. How would you explain that process to a friend who is interested in following Jesus? Check out Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:6-11, 10:9-10, 12:1-2 to help you base your answer in God's Word.

### **Romans 3:23**

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [NIV]

### **Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. [NIV]

### **Romans 5:6-11**

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. [7] Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. [8] But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

[9] Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! [10] For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! [11] Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. [NIV]

### **Romans 10:9-10**

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [10] For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. [NIV]

### **Romans 12:1-2**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. [2] Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be

transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will. [NIV]