Recap of 9/3/23 message by Pastor Joe (Mark 8:31-33):

- 1. Jesus' expectation of each believer is that we will be increasingly putting aside selfish intentions and more and more embracing God's will and following Jesus, having our minds on God's values and viewpoints in all areas of our lives (thought life, choices, marriages, homes, work, play, etc.).
- **2.** Chapters 9-16 of Mark is oriented toward the cross and the resurrection. While chapters 1-8 answered the question "Who is Jesus?" the underlying questions answered in the second half of the book are: "What kind of Messiah is Jesus?" "What does it mean to follow Him?"
- **3.** "One minute Peter was led by God to confess his faith in Jesus Christ (Mt. 16:17), and the next minute he was thinking like an unbelieving man and expressing the thoughts of Satan!" (Wiersbe) One minute he was a rock, the next he was a stumbling block.
- "Even the best of saints is but a poor fallible creature." (Ryle)