

## **Recap of 910/23 message by Pastor Joe (Mark 8:34-9:1):**

**1.** Peter's reaction, in Mark 8:32, to Jesus' announcement that He would be rejected by the religious leaders, be killed, and be resurrected from the dead draws a response from Jesus that Peter is advancing Satan's plan to deter Jesus from the cross. One Bible Study author asks, "how can we discern between someone's worthy advice and Satan's attempt to disrupt God's work? He suggests we ask the following questions: (source: LifeChange Bible Studies)

-Is the person producing the works of the flesh or the fruit of the Spirit in their lives? Galatians 5:19-23

-Is their mind on earthly things? Philippians 3:18,19

-do their actions deny or affirm that they know God? Titus 1:10-16

-are they self-serving or serving others? James 3:13-18

-do they hate or love? 1 John 4:20

**2.** In describing the way of discipleship, Jesus begins with the possibility of suffering:

- "...suffering was not inappropriate to the role of Christ—and it's not inappropriate for the Christian...Only a person with blurred spiritual vision could look at our suffering Savior, and then expect the Christian life to be all roses and no thorns." (Richards)

- "[Jesus] came not to make life easy but to make [people] great." (Barclay)

**3.** Discipleship also entails the dethronement of self, the enthronement of Jesus; saying no to self-seeking, self-will, and selfish interests. Discipleship also entails saying 'yes' to God's will and way. We must follow Jesus continually, "saying no to self, and yes to God." (Grassmick)

**4.** Jesus' disciples must reject a self-centered life and invest their lives for Jesus, making our lives count for Him.

- "You may build a beautiful house, but eventually it will crumble; You may develop a fine career, but one day it will be over; you may save a great sum of money, but you can't take it with you, you may be in superb health today, but in time it will decline, you may take pride in your accomplishments, but someone will surpass you." (John Maxwell)