Series: Goodnews
Passage: Mark 8:27-9:1
Sunday: November 15, 2026

Mark 8:27-9:1 (ESV)

27 And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" 28 And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." 29 And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." 30 And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

31 And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."
34 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul? 38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

9 And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power."

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1. If a random street poll were taken in your neighborhood today about who Jesus is, what are the top two or three answers you think people would give?

2. When Jesus asks, "Who do people say I am?", what are the common answers? Why might people have confused Him with those figures?

3. In light of the last few chapters of Mark and the disciples lack of understanding, why is verse 29 significant?

4. What are some things that you could share with a non-believing friend (or your ONE) to help them see that Jesus is not just a prophet or a good person?

5. Jesus immediately follows Peter's confession by telling of His suffering, rejection, and death. Why was it necessary for Jesus to correct their view of the Messiah right away?

6. What does Peter's attempt to "rebuke" Jesus show us about what Peter still needs to learn?

7. What does it practically mean to "deny oneself" and "take up your cross" in modern daily life?