

## Introduction:

**Texts:** Mark 8:27-38

### A. Jesus' Crucial Questions About His Identity

1. What was the religious public opinion about who Jesus was (vv. 27-28)?
2. What are some of the prevailing public opinions about Jesus today among non-believers?
3. What is the common religious belief about Jesus among Bible-believing Christians (v. 29)?

#### 4. *Insights for Living:*

### B. Jesus' Critical Questions About His Death and Resurrection

1. Why did Jesus tell His disciples about His rejection by the religious leaders, leading to His imminent death and resurrection (vv. 31-32a)?
2. Why did Peter rebuke Jesus in private (v. 32b)?
3. Why did Jesus rebuke Peter in public (v. 33)?

#### 4. *Insights for Living:*

### C. Jesus' Challenging Call to Follow Him

1. What is self-denial (v. 34)?
2. What is a disciple's cross?

3. What is meant by Jesus' paradox in v. 35?

4. What is maximum temporal gain and ultimate loss, according to Jesus (vv. 36-37)?

5. Jesus' warning (v. 38)

#### 6. *Insights for Living:*

## Conclusion:

### TABLETALK STARTERS

(For family devotions and Life Groups)

**Read:** Mark 8:27-38

1. In today's feel-good culture, what is the common and coveted concept of a winning life, even in some church circles? Examples:
  - a. If it feels good, do it.
  - b. The highest goal of life is pleasure.
  - c. He who has the most toys wins.
  - d. Winning is ultimately about: "I, myself, and me"—my comfort, my career, and my circle of friends.
  - e. How is this self-centered concept of winning contrary to what Jesus taught about the winning life?
  - f. What is your concept of the winning life, based on what Jesus taught in this text?
2. According to Jesus Christ, the ultimate **win** is eternal life, and the ultimate **loss** is eternal death—the loss of your soul (vv. 35-37). How will you apply Jesus' concept of a winning life to yourself?
3. One of the **core** values of our church is: "Prepare to live in this world and the world to come" (Psalm 90:12; 2 Peter 3:10-13). What insights from last Sunday's sermon challenged you to make this core value work in your life, and in the lives of your family members?