

An invitation to the inside story.

Mark 9:2-13

We live in a battlefield not a mountaintop.

Mark 9:14-29

The center of the universe syndrome.

Mark 9:33-37

- Jesus doesn't kill our ambition, he refocuses it.
- Don't try to be the best "you" that you can be; try to be the best imitation of Christ you can be.
- The closer we get to Jesus, the more His power and life flows through us.

NEXT STEPS

MY STORY

Humility is incredibly important if we're going to deal with our self-focus and self-reliance. One definition of humility is having an accurate view of ourselves - including our strengths, weaknesses and limitations. Is there one person who has modeled this sort of humility for you?

If so, how did you see humility demonstrated in their life?

DIGGING DEEPER.

In Mark 9 God's voice is heard for a second time in Mark's Gospel, the first being in 1:11. What purposes are accomplished by God's affirmation here?

The statement in verse 7, "Listen to him!" alludes to Deuteronomy 18: 12-22

Explain how we can listen to Jesus today.

1. Pride is an all too common struggle for most of us. Author C.S. Lewis described pride as “the essential vice, the utmost evil...Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind.” That’s why the Bible has a lot to say about pride and arrogance. Jot down your observations about pride from the following verses:

Proverbs 11:2

Proverbs 13:10

Proverbs 16:18

How could Romans 12:3 help us to counteract pride in our lives?

Pride has a way of attaching itself to certain areas of our lives like our image, possessions, strengths and position. In what ways have you dealt with pride in these or other areas of your life?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at this week’s teaching and study, what’s most important for you to remember and why?

If you have answered the question of who Jesus is for your life consider celebrating this decision by being baptized on February 26th.

Baptism is an important step in your journey as a follower of Christ; it's an outward symbol of the work God has already done in your life.

Baptism symbolizes your new life in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us that when we receive God's gift of salvation, we have new life in Christ, all old things have been washed away, all things are new! Romans 6:3-10, and Colossians 2:12, show us how baptism identifies us with the death and resurrection of Christ. When a person goes under the water, it illustrates death to their old life, and the death of Christ. As they come up from the water, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is represented, which also symbolized new life in Christ.

Prayer Requests: