

Connecting Church and Home

Quarter 2, Week 8 :: A Call to Service

Treasure Story: Mark 8:27-9:1

Why are we as humans so obsessed with what others think of us? We spend so much time trying to ensure that others have a favorable opinion of us that we often miss out on the joy of resting in Christ. Jesus was confident in who He was and what He had come to do, and He wanted His disciples to enjoy that confidence as well.

Connect

"Give up everything you have, carry a cross, and hate your family. This sounds a lot different than 'Admit, believe, confess, and pray a prayer after me.'"
– David Platt

There were many rumors flying around about who Jesus was. When He asked His disciples, Peter said boldly for the entire group that Jesus was the Christ (Mark 8:29). Jesus' mission on earth was to come and die for man and in three days rise from the dead. No one—not even His disciples—would get in the way of His mission. If we believe that Jesus is the Messiah, we must deny ourselves and be crucified with Him (Galatians 2:20). Teach this truth to your children as you participate in the following activities:

- **Who Are We?:** Have each person in your family write down on a piece of paper their personality traits and their talents. Then have them do the same thing for the other family members. After everyone is finished, compare your results. No matter the rumors swirling in today's Treasure Story, Jesus knew who He was and He wanted His disciples to know as well.
- **Denying Yourself:** We all have something in our lives that we struggle with. We all struggle with depending on ourselves instead of depending on the Lord. This week, help your children find their satisfaction in Christ by giving up things that they depend on other than Him. This might mean not having to wear the nicest clothes or having the latest game but giving to others instead.

My Mission As Parent

- Are you the same at work as you are at home? Who would your co-workers say that you are? When Christ wants us to deny ourselves and take up our cross daily, He wants us to become like Him. Teach your children that following Christ can result in suffering and struggles, but the end result is eternal life with Him.
- You may struggle with where God has called you. You may try to run from what He wants you to do or how to lead your children. It may be terrifying or just simply hard work, but God's work will not be hindered. He will give you the grace you need to disciple your children to worship and obey Him.

Prayer Points

- Ask the Lord to help you deny yourself daily.
- Pray that we would continually confess who Jesus is and that others would come to Him because of our boldness in sharing.
- Praise God that He sent Jesus as our Suffering Messiah.