



# THE GOSPEL OF MARK

## SERVANTHOOD & SACRIFICE IN A SELFIE WORLD

### QUESTIONS

ICEBREAKER: What is your favourite international food?

1. What divine characteristics did Jesus demonstrate in the healing of the demonized boy in Mark 9:14-27? How do these encourage you in your times of crisis [cf. Psalm 103:13; Colossians 2:15; and Hebrews 2:14-15]?
2. The word translated “received” in Mark 9:37 is a term of hospitality. Children in ancient times had little significance. How did Jesus’ actions and words in Mark 9:36-37 challenge the prevailing attitude regarding the value of children [cf. Psalm 131:1-3; Ephesians 6:1-4; and Colossians 3:20-21]?
3. Why do you think Jesus was particularly harsh in His condemnation of those who cause “one of these little ones who believe in me to sin” [Mark 9:42]? Examine also Proverbs 28:10; Luke 17:1-4; and Romans 14:13-23.
4. What principles for dealing with temptation to sin do you pick up from Jesus’ instruction to cut off various body parts if they cause you to sin [Mark 9:43, 45, 47]? Consider also 1 Corinthians 10:13; James 1:13-15; and 1 John 2:15-17.
5. The contrast between Jesus’ approach to young children and His disciples’ could not be starker [Mark 10:13]. What does this tell you about Jesus? What does this tell you about His disciples [cf. Genesis 33:5; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; and Psalm 127:3-5]?
6. What is it about a child that makes him/her the ultimate example of how to enter God’s kingdom [Mark 10:15]? Look up John 1:12; Romans 8:14-17; and Galatians 3:25-26 for more insights.
7. What did you find helpful or challenging about this Sunday’s message?

“Now, as always, God discloses Himself to “babes” and hides Himself in thick darkness from the wise and the prudent. We must simplify our approach to Him. We must strip down to essentials (and they will be found to be blessedly few). We must put away all effort to impress, and come with the guileless candor of childhood. If we do this, without doubt God will quickly respond.” (A.W. Tozer)