

2 September 2018

Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23

'You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

- 💡 Jesus reserves his harshest words for people who make the religious life about following human traditions, as opposed to it being a matter of genuine heart response.
- ★ Which human traditions do you hold on to too firmly?
- ♥ Lord, give me the courage to hold lightly to the traditions that I am used to and like, and be prepared to let them go if needed.

9 September 2018

Mark 7.24-37

But she answered him, 'Lord, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.'

- 💡 This is another example of a feisty woman challenging Jesus - and he seems to love it!
- ★ Did Jesus change his mind because of this woman's argument?
- ♥ Lord, help me to love the people who are most different to me.

16 September 2018

Mark 8.27-38

For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

- 💡 The word 'life' here is the Greek 'psyche', which refers to the non-eternal parts of our life. The counterpoint is 'zoe', our eternal pre-existent and everlasting life.
- ★ How willing are you to lose what you have for the sake of Jesus and the gospel mission?
- ♥ Lord, show me what aspects of my life I need to lose, in order to save them.

23 September 2018

Mark 9.30-37

Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me.'

- 💡 This astonishing passage suggests that children are sacramental, in a manner similar to the bread and wine of communion.
- ★ If we really believed this, how would it change our worship?
- ♥ Lord help me to see you in the children I meet.

30 September 2018

Mark 9.38-50

'Whoever is not against us is for us.'

- 💡 Karl Rahner coined the phrase 'Anonymous Christians' to refer to people who don't think of themselves as Christian, but effectively are.
- ★ Can you be an anonymous Christian? Who do you know who might be one?
- ♥ Lord, help me to appreciate the true diversity of your people.



Reflection

Write down the things that God might be speaking to you.

Scripture

Which words from the Bible stand out as having depth for you?

Reason

What questions have been on your mind?

Tradition

What books have you read that have moved you?
Which hymn lyrics have stayed with you?

Experience

Which life moments have had a special depth for you?