

## **Series: JESUS IS THE SUBJECT**

**Title: The Fulcrum**

**Speaker: Bob Marvel**

**Date: March 9-10, 2019**

Setting- Jesus is way up North in Caesarea Philippi. Here in chapter 8 he and his followers head south literally and head to Jerusalem. What Jesus is about to tell them about his future and theirs takes them completely by surprise. Read this week's passages, Mark 1:24-25, Mark 5:7 & Mark 8:27-38.

1. Why was Jesus interested in who the disciples thought he was? Why is this 'who' question so critical?
2. What's the difference between Jesus being 'the', verses him being 'a' or 'an' in verse 29
3. Bob mentioned that Peter answered the 'who' question correctly but understood it incorrectly. How did he and most Jews then and now, misunderstand the 'who' question?
4. Jesus could have lived out his years just like any other rabbi. Why all this talk about suffering? Was that really necessary? See 1 John 2:2.
5. What was so wrong about Peter trying to keep Jesus from harm? Isn't that what friends do when someone they love is about to make a serious mistake?
6. What would you say to a friend who decides to go to Afghanistan to preach the gospel?
7. Looking at the parallel passage in Matthew 16:13-17 and 21-23, Peter is inspired with one idea that comes from the Father and the next moment, with another one that comes from Satan. Did Peter know where his thoughts were coming from in either conversation? Didn't he think these thoughts were his own? Use this passage to answer the following: How do you know whether the ideas in your own head are from heaven or from hell?
8. Beyond Peter, who might Jesus been rebuking in this story?
9. When you're tempted, do you ever rebuke the devil out loud?
10. If you were a Roman Christ-follower and your friends were used as human torches at Emperor Nero's parties, what could this passage (verse 31) mean to you?
11. If you were a Roman who wasn't a Christian, what would it mean to you that Jesus says this about his future before he dies?
12. What does it mean in verse 35 to give your life away for his sake and the gospel's?
13. Bob referenced Warren Wiersbe saying there is a difference between self-denial and denying self. What's the difference?

14. In verses 37 & 38 Jesus is clear that some will stand before him and be ashamed. How does a future judgment impact your life here and now?