



Mark 9.42-50

INTRODUCTION

Jesus gives His disciples sobering warnings about hell, the danger of causing others to stumble, the necessity of ruthlessly dealing with sin, and the call to remain “salty” by living as faithful disciples. From this we learn that following Jesus requires decisive self-denial and a serious fight against sin, but that the cost of discipleship is infinitely worth it because Christ has saved us from judgment and given us Himself

INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God’s word. Therefore, please use it as tool that best fits the needs of your group.

OPENING DISCUSSION

- Why do you think modern Christians are often uncomfortable using the fear of judgment as a motivation for repentance?
- What was the most interesting idea/concept about Sunday’s sermon?
- What is your overall impression of Jesus in this passage?

REVIEW

- Have someone read **Mark 9.42-50**
- How does Jesus describe hell?
- Why does Jesus describe hell?
- What action is Jesus calling his disciples to do?

APPLICATION

- How can fear of hell be a legitimate part of a healthy Christian faith?
- How does Jesus’ warning actually demonstrate His love for us?
- What are some ways Christians can influence others toward sin, even without intending to?
- How might hypocrisy, pride, unforgiveness, or our use of our freedom negatively influence younger or newer believers?
- Why are we often willing to tolerate patterns of sin rather than take the drastic steps necessary to fight them?
- What might “cutting it off” look like practically in our lives?
- Is there a particular temptation where you know you need to take more decisive action?
- What is the difference between being perfect and fighting against sin?

PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer needs?