

SERVANT KING | A LEADER WORTH FOLLOWING

SERIOUSLY?: GOD'S SERVANT PREPARES

Mark 9:30-50

6.22.25

If we're to accurately gauge matters by God's standards,
we need to trade earthly 'weights and measures' for heavenly ones

Three critical areas of miscalculations that often require serious recalibrations:

What We Don't Take Seriously Enough

#1 THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST — JESUS' MISSION IS A BIG DEAL (9:30-32)

The Gravity of God's Commitment to His Promise | Get with God's Program

Four ways to take the Gospel more seriously:

#1 Protect this Priority from Distraction: A Discrete Approach (30)

Jesus' Gospel mission should never be overshadowed by earthly ministry 'buzz'

#2 Keep it Central to Your Discipleship: A Diligent Persistence (31a)

Jesus' Gospel mission is not something we move on from, but deeper into

#3 Rehearse & Marvel Over the Glorious Basics: A Detailed Prophecy (31b)

Jesus' Gospel mission is about historical facts & a feat that were predicted beforehand

#4 Don't Assume If You've Said it Once, that People Got it: A Dull Response (32)

Jesus' Gospel mission is a long term one with obstacles only overcome by the Spirit

What We Take Way Too Seriously

#2 PEDESTALS FOR OURSELVES — WE ARE NOT A BIG DEAL (9:33-41)

The Absurdity of Our Craving for Status | Get Over Yourself

Three ways to not take ourselves so seriously:

#1 Leave Your 'Legacy' Up to God – An Obsession with Comparison (33-34)

Clamoring for an earthly status in the eyes of men is a silly waste of time

#2 **Stop Managing 'Stock' & Serve** the Flock that Can't Repay – A Redirection of Attention (35-37)

Investments that seem like a waste of time are never so when they're in service to Jesus

#3 **Focus on Taking Ground, Not Taking Credit** – Appreciation of Common Mission (38-41)

Celebrate any successful campaign for Christ, even when 'credited' to others at your expense

What We Should Take More Seriously

#3 **EVIL & ITS' CONSEQUENCES** – SIN IS A BIG DEAL (9:42-50)

The Severity of Our Call to Holiness | *Get Tough with Sin*

Three ways to take sin more seriously:

#1 **Tread Carefully** with Your Influence Over the Vulnerable – A Sobering Responsibility (42)

God takes the way we impact the less mature incredibly seriously

#2 **Deal Brutally** with Your Own Temptations to Sin – A Stark Warning (42-48)

Be killing sin, or sin will be killing you

Three ways to deal seriously with temptation:

#1 Be **Ruthless** – The Decisive Command: '*if...causes you to sin...cut if off...*' (43a,)

#2 Be **Relentless** – The Exhaustive Call: '*...hand...foot...eye...*' (43a, 45a, 47a)

#3 Be **Doubtless** – The Perspective Clarity: '*...better...to enter life...than....be thrown into hell where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched...*' (43b, 45b, 47b, 48)

#3 **Think Eternally** in All Your Relationships – A Special Role (49-50)

Our distinct holiness should remind all of a coming judgment; & it may incite the world to treat us with purifying persecution, but that should inspire us not to fight with one another in fierce competition, but for one another deeper peace and union