



Mark 9 **Lesson 14**

At first glance this chapter may seem to be collage of unrelated events, but they all supernaturally lead to a purposed end. Jesus is slowly moving toward Jerusalem; the place of His final and greatest sacrificial act. His time is short. We can sense His urgency and deliberation with each step and lesson He teaches. A careful study of this chapter reveals an intentional effort by the Lord to equip, fortify, and strengthen these budding apostles

Pondering the Passage:

1. As we begin, take some time to read over the chapter. With your Bible in hand, try to write a simple sentence to summarize each passage.

Verses 1–13

Verses 14–29

Verses 30–37

Verses 38–50

Powerful Transformation: Mark 9:1–13

2. Talk about a 'mountain-top experience'! Describe Mark's account of this incredible event.
 - a. How would you recount this event to someone who's never heard it?

3. What was the significance of Moses and Elijah appearing with Jesus?
 - a. In what way was this significant to these disciples?

4. What a truly incredible experience for these men: seeing Jesus in His glory. What do you think your response would have been to this event?
 - a. Describe what Peter did as he witnessed Jesus' transformation.

 - b. Can you empathize with Peter's inappropriate behavior? What might have prevented him from acting in such an earthly manner?

5. Think about today. In what ways does Jesus reveal His glory to His followers in our time?

Powerful Prayer: Mark 9:14–29

6. Moving to verses 14–29, we see something more familiar. Make a list of things you see here which seem to recur over and over in the life of Jesus.

7. Who do you relate to most in this story?
 - The disciples who have just witnessed the glory of Jesus Christ

 - A parent dealing with a troubled child

 - The disciples confused about how to handle this problem

 - The crowd wanting to see another miracle

8. Had Jesus prepared the disciples to handle a situation like this? Please try to explain your answer.
 - a. Why were they unable to heal this boy?

9. Look at verse 24. There seems to be a contradiction in what the man is saying here. Can you relate to this? How might you have explained to Jesus what you were feeling?
- Even those of great faith are sometimes plagued with doubt. What should we do when buffeted with doubt?
 - How does our faith—or lack of it—affect those around us? Read Luke 5:18-20. In what way were the bystanders who witnessed this event affected?
10. What do you think is the main lesson in this passage?

Pertinent Lessons: Mark 9:30–37

11. Again Jesus is steadily moving toward Jerusalem, all the while seeking to prepare His disciples for the events to come. These were hard words to hear from their Lord. Why do you think the disciples were having such a hard time understanding Him?
- Can you think of a reason they would be "afraid to ask Him"?
12. There are powerful words in verses 35–37, words we can all relate to. As you consider this passage, fill in the blanks and then answer the questions:
- And He sat down, called the _____, and said to them, "If anyone desires to be _____, he shall be last of all and _____ of all." Then He took a little _____ and set him in the midst of them. And when He had taken him in His _____, He said to them, "Whoever _____ one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but _____ who sent Me."
- What do you think Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?
 - How important is our attitude in service?
 - What does this little child represent?
 - Explain servant hood, as you understand it.

13. Compare Jesus' teaching in this passage to what we find in the world. How does the world define success?

14. Using the following verses, complete the following statement: *If you want to be great...*

Matthew 16:24–26

John 13:12–15

James 4:10

Philippians 2:3–7

a. Which of these passages is most meaningful/helpful to you?

15. Why would the disciples be arguing about greatness?

a. With all that the previous verses (14–37) reveal about the disciples, how ready were they for the leadership role God would be entrusting to them?

b. If you were training this group of men, how would you feel about leaving them “in charge of the Gospel”?

“When a man is sincerely humble and never ventures to touch so much as a grain of praise, there is scarcely any limit to what God will do for him. Humility makes us ready to be blessed by the God of all grace, and fits us to deal efficiently with our fellow-men.”

C. H. Spurgeon

Preventative Words: Mark 9 38–50

16. Beginning in verse 38, we see an attitude that can seep into any Christian group or church. How did Jesus address this sectarianism?
 - a. Why would the disciples choose to stop this man?
 - b. Do you ever battle the attitude that silently shouts, "Us four, No more, Shut the door"?
 - c. Is it possible to have a balance of biblical conviction and embracing love? Please explain.

17. In verses 43–50, Jesus begins to warn about stumbling other believers. What analogy does He use to get His audience's attention?
 - a. Is it effective?

18. This chapter was packed with practical application. What ONE lesson ministered to you personally? What step of action should you take to move this into a personal experience?