

September 18, 2016

Series: Kickoff

Sermon Title: *Losing your life!*

Key Scriptures:

Mark 8:31-9:1 (NRSV)

³¹Then he began to *TEACH* them that the Son of Man must undergo great *SUFFERING*, and be *REJECTED* by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be *KILLED*, and after three days *RISE* again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on *DIVINE* things but on *HUMAN* things.” ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them *DENY* themselves and *TAKE UP* their cross and *FOLLOW* me.

³⁵For 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.

³⁶For what will it profit them to *GAIN* the whole world and *FORFEIT* their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are *ASHAMED* of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be *ASHAMED* when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

^{9:1}And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the *KINGDOM OF GOD* has come with *POWER*.”

**The Key:
The Cost of losing**

The Mission of Clearbranch UMC is
to **ENGAGE** people through relational ministry,
to **EQUIP** disciples for Christ and
to **EMPLOY** their gifts through missions.

The OUTLINE of losing

Mark 8:31-33 (NRSV) ³¹Then he began to *TEACH* them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be *REJECTED* by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days *RISE AGAIN*. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to *REBUKE* him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are *SETTING YOUR MIND* not on *DIVINE* but on *HUMAN* things.”

The OUTLAY of losing

Mark 8:34 (NRSV) ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them *DENY* themselves and *TAKE UP* their cross and *FOLLOW* me.

Luke 9:23 (NRSV) ²³Then he said to them all, “If any want to become my followers, let them *DENY* themselves and *TAKE UP* their cross daily and *FOLLOW* me.

Luke 14:27 (NRSV) ²⁷Whoever does not *CARRY* the cross and *FOLLOW* me cannot be my disciple.

2 Samuel 24:24 (NRSV) ²⁴But the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will buy them from you for a price; I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God that cost me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

The OUTCOME of losing

Mark 8:35-9:1 (NRSV) ³⁵For 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*. ³⁶For what will it profit them to *GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD* and *FORFEIT THEIR LIFE*? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are *ASHAMED OF ME* and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. ^{9:1}And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they *SEE* that *THE KINGDOM* of *GOD* has come with *POWER*.”

Challenge Questions:

Whose example are you following?

What is it costing you to follow Jesus?

In what ways will you lay down your life this week? Why?

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