

I. Confess Him - Luke 9:18-20

1. Context (situation) - He was alone, praying (**verse 18**)
 - He had withdrawn
 - but, His disciples were with Him
 2. The question - whom say the people that I am?
 - Rea -rhetorical question
 3. The answer of the disciples (**verse 19**)
 - A. John the Baptist
 - Herod had heard that John had risen from the dead (Luke 9:7-8)
 - B. Elias
 - Jews believed that Elijah would precede the Messiah
 - Jesus is clear that John the Baptist was the “Elijah” that should come
 - C. One of the old prophets - risen
 4. Whom do you say? (**Verse 20**)
 - A. Peter answers - the Christ
 - Peter speaks out on numerous occasions
 - note the Mt of Transfiguration - Mt. 16:16
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Just to ask such questions raises the issue and forces a decision
 - the invitation in a Baptist church forces people to make some sort of decision, whether or not the “walk the isle” - it is a shame that the “invitation” is disappearing from the local church!
 2. He makes them (personally) take a stand - whom do “you” say?
 3. Have you made that decision (personally) yourself?

II. Accept His Resurrection - Luke 9:21-22

1. Do not tell this thing (**verse 21**)
 - A. Charged and commanded not to tell
 - B. Tell no man
 - Rea C. There is a time to tell, - God’s timing is crucial
 2. These things must happen - the Son of Man (**verse 22**)
 - A. Must suffer many things - mocked, beaten, mocked
 - B. Be rejected - by leadership
 - not all receive Him
 - Rea -those who received Jesus were mainly the rank and file - not leaders
 - C. Be slain
 - Rea -not just die, but be slain - intentionally killed
 - D. Rise
 - the third day
 - Rea -predicted miracle of resurrection and the specific day - third day
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Predicted miracles are bigger and better than those that are not
 2. Speaks to Jesus’ “self-awareness” - He knows
 - A. Who He is - He knows He is the Son of Man -the idea that Jesus does not

- realize these things is just dumb - based on Scripture
- B. What is about to happen - foreknowledge
- 3. His awareness is not a question
 - the pivotal thing is that they know who He is

III. Follow Him Unashamedly - Luke 9:23-27

1. Conditions now of their following Him (**verse 23**)
 - A. If (Rea -then) any will come after Him
 - Rea -“if” means there is a condition to following Him - threefold terms
 - 1) deny himself
 - 2) take up cross - “daily”
 - 3) follow
 - B. Deny himself - our own agenda
 - give up all for His glory
 - C. Take up cross
 - a life-style of self-sacrificing
 - compare 2 Cor. 5:15
 - Rea -just as Jesus died, so must we - the “cross” is where you die wherever that might be - the end of dying is being resurrected. “Deny” means to say “no” to oneself, just as a person might deny himself that second piece of cake.
 - D. Follow
 - Rea -“follow” is bigger than just “being saved” or “being baptized”
 2. Save your life - then you’ll lose it (**verse 24**)
 - but if you give up your life you’ll save it
 - not physical life
 3. Verses 24-27 get into the principle behind “dying” to oneself
 4. Gave the world, lose the world (**verse 25**)
 - Rea -might be helpful to see the pronouns - “his” life versus Jesus’ life - our way versus Jesus’ way
 5. A danger is addressed in **verse 26** - to be ashamed of Him
 - Him and His words
 - embarrassed
 - Rea -why might we be “ashamed” of Him?
 6. Jesus will be ashamed of him - later - of those who deny Him
 7. A “truth” is relevant (**verse 27**)
 - A. This is important
 - B. Some standing here will not taste death until they see the kingdom
 - Perhaps He means...
 - Pentecost
 - the resurrection
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. The principle of death and resurrection is important here
 2. Ephesians 2:1ff - speaks of spiritual resurrection
 - Romans 6:1ff - uses Baptism as a symbol of death burial and resurrection
 3. “Deny” to self does not mean destroy self - but say “no” to self

4. The contrast/ warfare is between “self” and “following” Christ

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