

February 28, 2021, 2nd Sunday in Lent, lesson for 4th-6th grade

As usual with our readings, read them slowly, listening for words or phrases that jump out at you. Read through a couple of times and see if different parts catch your attention each time, then think about the questions.

Mark 8:31-38

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

³¹ Then 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. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But 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."

³⁴ He 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. ³⁵ For 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. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those 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."

Reread verse 31.

- ◆ What hard news is in this verse?
- ◆ What good news is in this verse?

Reread verses 32-33.

- ◆ The word *rebuke* means to tell a person what that person is doing wrong. *Can you think of examples? A parent rebukes a child, a teacher rebukes a student. Can you imagine these situations reversed, too, for example a child rebuking a parent?*
- ◆ Why does Peter rebuke Jesus?
- ◆ Why does Jesus rebuke Peter?

Reread verses 34-38.

- ◆ What sad news is in these verses? What is the happy news?
- ◆ How might someone win the whole world, but lose his or her life?
- ◆ Imagine that we are the crowd listening to Jesus.
 - What questions might we want to ask?

Activity - prayer

LENT

- ◆ Lent is a season of the Church that lasts 40 days.
- ◆ In Lent, we prepare for the great Feast of Easter.
- ◆ We prepare by listening to God's word, by trying to follow Jesus more closely and by spending more time in prayer alone and together.

PRAYER

- ◆ Some people feel that they hear actual words when they listen to God. Many others experience silence.
- ◆ Some people feel close to God in silence. Others feel far away from God.
- ◆ Whatever you hear or feel when you pray or listen to God is fine.
- ◆ Find a comfortable way to pray—sitting, standing or kneeling.
- ◆ Try to calm yourself, inside and out, so that you can listen quietly for God's voice.

Help us to listen to you every day, all day long, God. We want to hear your voice. Amen.