



## Week of Sept 3 - a

### Scripture: Mt 16:21-23

**Main Idea:** Peter rebukes Jesus. What a thought. Of course, Peter was in the wrong and not only was confused about what Jesus was trying to tell him, but he was being used by Satan to tempt Jesus. This story shows us that sometimes when we resist Satan, we will be resisting the influence of those closest to us.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** Jesus calls Peter Satan because he is distracting him from Godly things. If someone is distracting you from doing right, should you separate yourself from them? What else could you do that would be good?

**Grade school:** How can you resist Satan and someone close to you? Maybe a friend wants you to stay overnight at their house, but you know you'll miss church if you do. Or, if you are at a friend's house and they want to watch a movie that you know your parents don't want you to watch.... If you resist and say no, what will your friend say?

**Teen:** Do you think it was hard for the disciples to believe the Son of God would die in such a way? Did Peter realize how wrong he was to say this will never happen? Are there times that what seems right in our humanness is actually going against what God has planned?

**Adult:** Think of a time when you were certain your opinion was right only to find out later that you were wrong. How did you feel when you believed those around you were wrong? Did you speak out? Jesus was preparing his disciples for his upcoming death. The disciples had their own perception of Jesus' future, that he'd be king and rule over an earthly kingdom. Do you think this kept them from really understanding what Jesus was telling them? How can we open our minds to truth without letting our biases color our view? Can we? Is this a human failing?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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PRAY: For God to help us follow him and not let people lead us the wrong way.

#### September Memory Verse:

**Romans 5:8 (ESV)**

**8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**



## Week of Sept 3 - 6

### Scripture: Mt 16:24-28

**Main Idea:** Jesus teaches his followers that being his disciples will not always be easy. It will require sacrifice and denying ourselves things we want. That might be material things (stuff), or experiences (things we shouldn't do) or even relationships (with people living ungodly lives). Nothing in this world would be worth losing our eternal soul.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** Is our eternal life with God more important than having everything we want on this Earth?

**Grade school:** If you have friends who are making bad choices and saying or doing bad things what should you do? Could you say or do anything that might help them to act better? If you try that and they continue to do or say bad things, should you keep spending a lot of time with them?

**Teen:** What must we do to follow Jesus? What does this mean? Who will be lost and who will be saved? How do you save your life and lose it, or lose your life and find it? Will there be a judgment day?

**Adult:** Have you known someone who forfeited their soul for something earthly? Maybe they took a job in a place where the closest church was many miles away and they stopped attending. Or maybe someone continued to attend church services yet let the temptations of wealth, happiness or peace dim or extinguish their lamp. It has been said that it's not about how you start but how you finish. What might you need to do to finish strong?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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**PRAY:** For God to give us the strength that we need to wholeheartedly follow him

#### September Memory

#### Verse:

**Romans 5:8 (ESV)**

**8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**