

Mark 8: 40—Keep it to yourselves!

Did Jesus confirm or deny what Peter had said about him? Why?

Why didn't Jesus want everyone to know that he was the Christ?

The English translations we use say "Jesus warned them" but the Greek word for 'warned' is the same word that in verse 33 is translated as 'rebuked' - does this make any difference to your understanding of what Jesus was saying?

Why would Jesus use language that was that harsh to stop them telling the new found revelation of him?

Space for Your Sermon Notes:



ST PAUL'S Sarisbury Green

Sunday 8th February 2009

Peter's Announcement

Space for Your Sermon Notes:

Key Passages:

Mark 8: 37-40

Read The Story

Reading the book

If anyone in your group has managed to read the whole book before you meet than ask them how they found it. What, if anything did they learn? How was it different from reading a chapter or a few verses?

Going Deeper

Mark 8: 37—Who do people say I am?

The area Jesus goes to is to the north of Israel in the foothills of Mount Hermon which is now in the Golan Heights and a few kilometres from the Lebanese border.

Why do you think Jesus takes his disciples away from the crowds?

Why do you think Jesus asked this question?

If you were to ask this question of your family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues etc today who do you think they would say Jesus was?

What do you think has led them to these conclusions about Jesus?

Mark 8: 38 The “man on the street’s!” view of Jesus

John The Baptist—read back to Mark 6:14-16. Why do you think that people may have suggested that Jesus was John The Baptist—after all they knew that he had been murdered by Herod? What was the relationship between John & Jesus? What parallels can you think of between the two?

Elijah—Why Elijah?

Read 2 Kings 2:1-11 and Malachi 4:1-6 Is it easier now to answer the question of why the people may have thought Jesus was Elijah?

One of the Prophets

What do you think the disciples meant by this?

What other world faiths think that Jesus is a prophet?

Are they right?

What different would it make to you if Jesus was a prophet and nothing more?

Mark 8: 39—Peter’s Confession

What does the name Jesus Christ mean to you?

Is the word ‘Christ’ a name, a position, a role, or something else?

The word Christ had the same meaning as Messiah and literally meant ‘The Anointed One.’ Can you think of anywhere in the Old Testament where the Bible talks about the Messiah?

What do you think were the expectations that the Jews at the time of Jesus had as to what the Messiah would be like and what he would do?

How did Jesus differ from those expectations?

What expectations do you have of Jesus?

Has he met your expectations? If not why do you think that he

If you were to be asked this same question—who do you say Jesus is? How would you reply?