

## **The Way of a Servant: Mark Conviction**

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### ***The “Jesus question” according to public opinion...***

*Jesus and His disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way, He asked them, “Who do people say I am?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” (Mark 8:27-28)*

### ***The “Jesus question” according to personal conviction...***

*“But what about you?” He asked. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Christ.” (Mark 8:29)*

#### ***Three levels of conviction...***

- ***Public – what I say I believe***
- ***Private – what I think I believe***
- ***Core – what my actions reveal I believe – “Even if all fall away, I will not.” (Mark 14:29)***

### ***Jesus then explains what true conviction looks like for the Christian...***

*He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that He must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. (Mark 8:31-32)*

- ***Surrender, sacrifice and service – “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.” (Mark 8:34-35)***

*If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels. (Mark 8:38)*

### ***The fruit of true conviction and faith: Losing your life so Christ can fulfill it...***

*But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ... (Philippians 3:7-9)*