



Pastor Scott Archer 03.08.2020\*  
Central Congregational Church  
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”  
www.ccclamesa.com

## Faith in the Trenches Pt. 2

Mark 9:30-50

Series: Getting In on the Good News  
The Gospel of Jesus Christ According to Mark

### Central Passage

**Mark 9:30–50 (NIV)** — **30** They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, **31** because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.” **32** But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it. **33** They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?” **34** But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. **35** Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.” **36** He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, **37** “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.” **38** “Teacher,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.” **39** “Do not stop him,” Jesus said. “For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, **40** for whoever is not against us is for us. **41** Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward. **42** “If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea. **43** If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. **44** **45** And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. **46** **47** And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, **48** where “ ‘the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.’ **49** Everyone will be salted with fire. **50** “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

\*Access today’s sermon notes via your smartphone or tablet with the **YouVersion** Bible app from LifeChurch.tv. CCChurch Guest Wi-Fi password: central8360church.

**Central Thought:** We get in on the Good News when we resist the ego-driven and divisive pursuit of power, position and partiality and, instead, follow Jesus in the way of servant-leadership, collaboration and community.

### We Follow Jesus in the Trenches of Life When...

- ❖ We prioritize solidarity with and service to the least and the last. (vs. 33-37)

**Matthew 25:40 (NIV)** — **40** “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ (See also Matt. 25:31-46; James 1:27)

- ❖ We pursue cooperation and collaboration with those whose beliefs and practices are not exactly like ours. (vs. 38-41)

**Philippians 1:15–18 (NIV)** — **15** It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. **16** The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. **17** The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. **18** **But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice...**

- ❖ We practice community building and interpersonal edification with everyone around us. (vs. 42-50)

**1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)** — **11** Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

**Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)** — **29** Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. (See also Hebrews 3:13)

Central Congregational Church – 8360 Lemon Ave. - La Mesa – 91941 – (619) 466-1261