

Unfolding the Wondrous Mystery

Text: Mark 9:30-32

Context - After the mount of Transfiguration in Mark 9:1-14 and the clarity of Jesus as the Messiah in Mark 8:29, Jesus takes his disciples on a retreat to explain his upcoming death and resurrection. The disciples still do not comprehend any of what is about to take place.

To unfold the wondrous mystery...

1. _____ personal time with Jesus (vs. 30-31)

- A. Jesus did not want anyone to know he was in Galilee because he was spending focused time with the disciples - helping to explain his upcoming death and resurrection.
- B. We often do not understand the plans of God or what is coming. Personal focused time with Jesus is never a waste.

2. _____ the Gospel (vs. 31)

- A. Just as before in Mark 8:31, Jesus again plainly tells the disciples about his upcoming death and resurrection - adding that he will be handed over or betrayed to the Gentiles or Romans.
- B. Mark emphasizes the importance of this foretelling three times in his book: Mark 8:31, Mark 9:31, and Mark 10:33-34.

3. _____ for understanding (vs. 32)

- A. The disciples were afraid to ask Jesus what he meant. We have been encouraged in the New Testament to ask God for wisdom (James 1:5) and to approach the throne of mercy boldly in a time of need (Hebrews 4:16).
- B. Pray for God to help you better understand the Gospel and how it can inform everything in your life.