Mark 8:27-33

Jesus Announces Death	Disciples Response	Jesus Continues to Teach
8:31 -	8:32-33 – Peter Rebukes Jesus	8:33-9:1 – Deny yourselves
9:30-31	9:32 – Disciples Do Not	9:33-50 – First must be last
	Understand and Do Not Ask	
10:33-34	10:35-37 – James and John	10:38-45 – Greatness is to
	ask for places in the Kingdom	become a servant; Jesus came
		to give his life as a ransom

- 1. The middle or the division between the first and second half of the book of Mark takes place here.
 - a. First half Jesus does might works
 - b. Second half Jesus is set for the cross and crucifixion in weakness
- 2. The two-step healing of the blind man in 8:22-26 illustrates the disciples gradual understanding of Jesus from the first half of the book of Mark and their clearer understanding of Jesus that will need to occur in the second half of Mark.
- 3. Like the conversation in the boat about the Leaven of the Pharisees and Herod (8:14-21)
 - a. "Do you not yet perceive or understand?"
 - b. "Are your hearts hardened?"
 - c. "Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear?"
- 4. Like Jesus was the one to open the blind man's eyes in stages, so Jesus is the one to open the eyes of the disciples understanding in stages. Possibly three stages:

The 3 Stages of Sight/Understanding	Blind Man	Disciples
None No Sight No Understanding	8:22 – " a blind man "	8:17-21 – "Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear?"
Partial/Misunderstanding	8:23-24 – "Do you see anything?" "I see people, but they look like trees, walking."	8:29-33 – " But who do you say that I am?"…"You are the Christ." (They understood the victorious Christ, but did not comprehend the suffering Christ."
Complete/Clear	8:8:25 – "he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly."	15:39 – " Truly this man was the Son of God !" (Centurion)

- 5. Witnesses in Mark to Jesus the Messiah:
 - a. Mark the writer in 1:1 "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."
 - b. God in 1:11 "And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."
 - c. Demons -

- i. 1:24 "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God."
- ii. 3:11 "Whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."
- iii. 5:7 "Crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me."
- d. First Human, Peter in 8:29 "Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

Mark 8:27 – "And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"

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- 1. Caesarea Philippi is 25 miles straight north of Bethsaida
 - a. A one day walk from Bethsaida to Caesarea Philippi
 - b. In territory of Herod Philip (tetrarchy)
 - c. Base of Mt. Hermon
 - d. Border of Syria
 - e. Philip had rebuilt Panias and named it after Augustus Caesarea and himself, thus Caesarea Philippi
 - f. Famous pagan shrine to Pan, the half man and half goat god, was here. There was a grotto at the base of Mt Hermon next to the cave where three major sources of water emerged to begin the Jordan River.
 - g. Non-Jewish population
 - h. 200 BC Antiochus IV Epiphanes defeated Egypt here and took over Israel which led to Hellenization and the Maccabean Revolt in 168 BC
- 2. "set out" *exelthen* implies a deliberate beginning to a set destination.
- 3. "to the villages of Caesarea Philippi". Matthew says "the region around Caesarea Philippi"
- 4. One of the villages was Gamala the home of Judas the Galilean. His sons, Simon and Jacob, helped begin the war with Rome in 66 AD. Accor They were later crucified by Rome. According to Josephus, Judas was the founder of "the fourth philosophy" of the Jews called "The Sicarii", or "dagger men", assassins who joined with the Zealots to liberate Jerusalem from Rome. The

other three groups were Pharisees, Sadducees and Essenes. Judas's nephew Menahem and Menahem's nephew Eleazar ben Jair both died on Masada at the Jews last stand in 73 AD.

5. "On the way" Jesus asks the questions

8:28 – "And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets."

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- 1. These answers were the popular opinions and the best explanations the people could come up with.
- 2. No one understood "Christ" or "Messiah". And, no teaching included a suffering Messiah.

8:29 – "And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

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- 1. "Christ" is from *christos* in the Greek which translates the Hebrew word *Messiah* which means "to anoint".
 - a. Many were "anointed" or a "messiah" in the OT kings, priests
 - b. Dd
- 2. After the house of David fell the people began to look for the restoration of the line of David to restore Israel:
 - a. Jeremiah 23:5 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

- b. Amos 9:11-12 ""In that day I will raise up the booth of David that is fallen and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins and rebuild it as in the days of old, that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by my name," declares the LORD who does this.
- 3. The earliest known use of the term "the Messiah" is from Qumran. It is around 200-100 BC this group began thinking in terms of an individual who would be the eschatological king who would establish God's kingdom of the Jews and defeat the Gentiles and sinners.
 - a. Qumran expected two Messiah figures:
 - i. A military deliverer who was a son of David
 - ii. A son of Aaron as high priest. (this seems to only have been from Qumran)
- 4. Two terms we associate with Messiah are not connected by the Jews:
 - a. Servant of Yahweh
 - b. Son of Man

A quote from the apocryphal book the Psalms of Solomon chapter 17. This is part of a chapter from the Psalms of Solomon which is a group of eighteen psalms written in the 150-20 BC that are not part of any current scriptural canon, but they are found in copies of the Peshitta (the Syriac Church Scripture) and the Septuagint:

Behold, O Lord, and raise up unto them their king, the son of David, At the time in the which Thou seest, O God, that he may reign over Israel Thy servant And gird him with strength, that he may shatter unrighteous rulers,

And that he may purge Jerusalem from nations that trample (her) down to destruction. Wisely, righteously he shall thrust out sinners from (the) inheritance, He shall destroy the pride of the sinner as a potter's vessel.

With a rod of iron he shall break in pieces all their substance,

He shall destroy the godless nations with the word of his mouth; At his rebuke nations shall flee before him, And he shall reprove sinners for the thoughts of their heart. And he shall gather together a holy people, whom he shall lead in righteousness, And he shall judge the tribes of the people that has been sanctified by the Lord his God. And he shall not suffer unrighteousness to lodge any more in their midst, Nor shall there dwell with them any man that knoweth wickedness, For he shall know them, that they are all sons of their God. And he shall divide them according to their tribes upon the land, And neither sojourner nor alien shall sojourn with them any more. He shall judge peoples and nations in the wisdom of his righteousness. Selah. And he shall have the heathen nations to serve him under his yoke; And he shall glorify the Lord in a place to be seen of () all the earth;

And he shall purge Jerusalem, making it holy as of old."

- Psalms of Solomon 17:23-33

8:30 - "And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

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30	Καί	ἐπετίμησεν	αὐτοῖς	ίνα	μηδενὶ	λέγωσιν	περì	αὐτοῦ.
	And	He warned	them	that	no one	they should tell	concerning	Him
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1. According to Isaiah 49:1-6 the Messiah must remain hidden until he finishes his work.

2. Jesus now begins to teach the correct understanding of who he is.

8:31 – "And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.

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8:32 – "And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

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	kai	parrēsia	ton	logon	elalei	kai	proslabomenos	ho	Petros	auton
32	καί	παρρησία	τὸν	λόγον	ἐλάλει .	καί	προσλαβόμενος	ò	Πέτρος	αὐτὸν ,
	And	openly	the	word	He was speaking	And	having taken Him	-	Peter	to him
	Conj	N-DFS	Art-AMS	N-AMS	V-IIA-3S	Conj	V-APM-NMS	Art-NMS	N-NMS	PPro-AM3S

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8:33 – "But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

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8:34-38 – "And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."