



Mark: Following Jesus Immediately- Proclaim Truth & Pay the Price

Introduction: There are times when what we say is going to cost us. That can be because we've said something rash or it can even be for speaking the truth. Are we willing to repent or change course when we've said wrong? Are we willing to pay the price for speaking the truth?

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever had a moment where you knew you should not have said something the moment you said it? What do you do when that happens? What about experiencing negative consequences for speaking the truth?
2. Read **Mark 6:12-16** Keeping in mind this is before the cross and the resurrection, what was the disciples message? What would obeying that message look like at the time? How do people generally respond to being told they need to repent? How do you respond?
3. Read **Mark 6:17-29** What questions have the disciples message sparked? Is Herod nervous about who he thinks Jesus is? Why does John continue to confront Herod even though he is in prison?
4. What makes Herod feel like he has to have John beheaded? He's the ruler, can't he change his mind? Are there times where we continue on a path because we said something we shouldn't have?
5. In the sermon, Bonhoeffer was quoted about "Cheap Grace." One of the things he talks about is preaching forgiveness without repentance. Why is it difficult to talk about not only our need to repent, but to spread that message about repentance to everyone? How can talking about those things be costly? Is there a way to talk about these things without being harsh or condemning?
6. John's death was a precursor to both Jesus' eventual death and the path that the disciples would be on in spreading Jesus' message. What price are you willing to pay or what would give you pause for following Jesus?

Shaping Your Mind – They went out and preached that people should repent. Mark 6:12

Moving Forward – Cheap grace preaches forgiveness without repentance...remember that Jesus loves you just the way you are, and too much to leave you like that.