



*Dealing with the roadblocks as we journey to the new.

**Mark 9:30 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."

*Greatness could be the Church's greatest stumbling block.

1. **V:30-32 When we don't understand** Jesus' agenda we will argue with each other for position.
 - A. **The apostles** still thought Jesus would take over the world during this time.
 - B. **Being afraid to ask Jesus** will set you up for a mistake. We must learn to go to Jesus with our lack of understanding.
2. **V:33-36 Greatness is measured**, but it is measured differently in the Kingdom of God. *The gifts and recognition we seek are not climbing the ladder up. They are received as we submit and surrender to a greater level.*

**Mark 9:38 "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."

*Training can be a stumbling block if...

1. **V:38-39 The unidentified follower of Jesus** is not recognized because they didn't have the training of the apostles. *Availability is as important to God as ability is to others.*
2. **V:40-41 One of the hardest things to determine** is who is on God's side? *I wonder how many are receiving rewards in heaven that most of us didn't even know they were on our team?*

**Mark 9:42 "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. (KJV) 44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 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. (KJV) 46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 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."

*Penalties of great magnitudes to those who cause others to stumble.

1. **V:42 Children and those young in the faith** should not be targeted by anyone who understands this scripture. **No believer can believe in abortion and not activate this judgment on their life.**
2. **V:43-48 Self-made blunders** are more serious than you've been taught. **We need a radical solution for our sin-driven life.**
3. **V:49-50 Our Christian role** is to be a preservative. **Be salt to one another and the body of Jesus Christ will live at peace with one another.**

**Mark10:1 Jesus then left that place and went into the region of Judea and across the Jordan. Again crowds of people came to him, and as was his custom, he taught them.*

2 Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

3 "What did Moses command you?" he replied.

4 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

5 "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. 6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 7 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

10 When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. 11 He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. 12 And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

*The switch and a bait stumbling block.

1. ***V:1-4 They wanted Jesus to stumble!** He is on His way to the cross and they wanted him to stumble by saying something against Moses. They didn't care about the marriage laws or divorce it was a trap.
2. ***V:5-9 Use every opportunity** to point people to God. **Genesis 2** is quoted by Jesus as he redirects them to God's plan. **Jesus told them it was the hardness of their heart that Moses wrote them an easy way out of marriage.**
3. ***V:10-12 We must use see the full gospel** for the complete picture. **The synoptic Gospels give a fuller view of God's heart.**
***Matthew 19:9** I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."