



30th August 2020

Matthew 16:21-28

1. What do you think is the best explanation for Jesus telling his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah(v20)?
2. Read Isaiah 52:7-9 and Isaiah 53:1-7. How can we reconcile these two pictures of the Messiah? Why do you think Peter had latched onto the triumphant picture of the Messiah and not the picture of the suffering Messiah?
3. 'Peter has gone from the pinnacle of the mountaintop v17-19 to the depths of the valley v23.' Has this been your experience in discipleship? This is not just about good things and bad things happening in our lives but times when we have served the Lord and seem to have got it right and other times when we have missed the mark.
4. How have you experienced the truth of verses 24 to 26?
5. V27How does '*the coming of the son of man*' help you to take up your cross and follow Jesus?
6. If v28 is not referring to the second coming what are the other possibilities?
7. Set yourself a goal this week to deny yourself in a specific way. You may or may not like to share with your group the assignment you have set yourself. What did Jesus teach you in this exercise? Share that next time you meet.