

Difficult Words: **Be Not Ashamed**

³⁴ "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ ***If anyone is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His Father's glory with the holy angels.***"

Jesus speaking to the crowd in Mark 8

Questions for Personal Reflection

- Am I ashamed of Jesus or of His words & teaching as reflected in scripture?
- If I am ashamed, why is that so? What are the reasons for this shame or tendency not to openly identify with Jesus and His words or His teachings?
- In what ways "does my being ashamed of Jesus & His words" manifest itself? Is it around a particular group of people, like at school, or work, at family functions, speaking with neighbors? Is it around particular issues?
- What would help me to overcome this tendency of being ashamed of Jesus and His words?