**Sermon Notes**

**“Follow the Leader?”**

Mark 8:31–38

31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” 34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. 36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? 37 Or what can anyone give in exchange for their 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 them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

**Mark’s 1-2 Punch:**

* Punch #1: Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Punch #2: Jesus is not the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you’re looking for.

**Following the Leader**

1. By \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yourself

Romans 12:10

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves..

1. By taking up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Exodus 20:7

“You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God”

1. By following \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1 John 2:6
Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

**Follow the Leader?**

John 12:24

24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. Which aspect of this message was most impactful for you, and why?

2. A lot of people show interest in Christianity/Jesus, but then fall away. How much of this is due to them not finding “the messiah they were looking for?” What do you think they were expecting Jesus to “do” for them?

3. How do you understand and practice self-denial? What lessons have you learned as a result?

4. What are ways we can “show honour” to one another in the church?

5. How does v. 35 challenge you in the context of a “me first” culture? How does it give you hope?

6. How have you experienced the truth of John 12:24 in your life?