

# Where's Your Chair?

Mark 8 27-9 1



The heavens are telling the glory of God and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.  
One day pours out its song to another and one night unfolds knowledge to another.  
Psalm 19:1-2

## **Praising:**

'Take up thy cross', the Saviour said,  
'if thou wouldst my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me.'

## **Reading:**

Mark 8:27-9:1

Peter answers Jesus' question

It is no accident that this pivotal conversation between Jesus and his disciples takes place at Caesarea Philippi, a major site of pagan worship. In keeping with Jesus' policy of repressing sensational reports about him, he follows the declaration of his divinity with an announcement of his passion. For most Christians there is a no-going-back moment when, like Peter, we see that Jesus is who he is. For some the discovery that creeps up slowly.

For others it's a thunderbolt. Yes, Christ is intriguing and fascinating and in lots of ways noble and attractive. But gradually or suddenly we come to see that he also has a personal force and significance for our individual lives. And then we come to see that if that's true, he must also have a universal force and significance for the whole of life itself.

## **Listening:**

## **Praying:**

Lord, we recognise the implications of recognising Christ

- we pray for those who are nervous or fearful of confessing him publicly
- we pray for those for whom doing so would mean danger or possibly death
- we pray for those only held back by self-consciousness or embarrassment

Father, you have opened my eyes to the saving glory of your Son: strengthen my resolve, as I turn to face a world which, so often, seems not to want even to look at him. Amen

## **Doing:**

Tuesday, 17 November 2015