

# Two Common Faults

*Mark 9.30-37*

- *afraid to ask any questions*
  - *limits personal understanding*
- *afraid to give any answers*
  - *limits personal development*

## 1. Afraid to Ask Questions? (vs 30-32)

- *the priority of teaching and training disciples v30*
- *the necessity of his death and resurrection v31; 8.31-32*  
*to save us from our sins Mat 1.21*  
*1 Pet 2.24; 3.18*
- *why they didn't understand v32*  
*inflexible minds,*  
*rigid preconceptions*
- *why no questions? v32*  
*(a) a fear of looking foolish 8.33;*  
*9.6, 18-19,28*

**God gifts us his Spirit to help us understand 1 Cor 2.14; Lk 11.13**

**(b) a fear facing the consequences discover God is good! Ps 34.8**

- **be hungry to understand – ask plenty of questions**

## **2. Afraid to Give Answers? (vs 34-37)**

- **a heated discussion v33**
- **an inappropriate topic v34; who is the greatest? Eph 4.29-31**
- **greatness comes through humble service v35; 10.42-45**  
**Jesus transforms our ambitions**
- **greatness is measured by the welcome we give the lowly vs36-37**  
**true service is never patronising**  
**- welcome others as equals**  
**Jas 2.1-5; Rom 12.16; 15.7**
- **don't avoid answering Jesus**  
**let him lead you on**