

# ***Life's Greatest Controversy***

## **Luke 9:18-27**

LG Questions for 02.28.10

### **Getting Started**

- 1) **The Controversy.** Jesus has been a major source of controversy in every generation. Mention God's name and the reaction is fairly mild. But proclaim the name of Jesus and it immediately stirs up strong emotions. Have you found that to be true? If so, give an example and tell why you think the person of Jesus is so controversial.

### **Getting into the Bible**

- 2) **A Disciple's Confession.** Read **Luke 9:18-20**. a) To get His disciples thinking about His identity, Jesus asked them who people were saying He was. How would you answer that question today? Who do people say Jesus is and do you find their explanations credible? Why or why not? b) What do you think about Peter's statement? Do you agree with Him? If so, explain how and why you've come to that conclusion.
- 3) **A Disciple's Commitment.** Read **Luke 9:21-25**. a) Why do you think Jesus told His disciples to keep His identity secret? b) In these verses He also predicts suffering both for Himself and His disciples. What do you find the most daunting about His statement here? Have you ever had to suffer for Christ? If so, give an example.
- 4) **A Disciple's Compensation.** Read **Luke 9:26-27**. a) How does this statement by Jesus "up the stakes" when it comes to confessing Him as your Lord? (Read His longer statement in **Matthew 16:24-27** as well.) b) Why were people ashamed to confess that Jesus is the Messiah? (See **John 12:42-43** for help.) Do you think this is still a factor in the decisions people make today? Explain. (See the example in **John 9:13-34**.)

### **Getting Personal and Practical**

- 5) **Your Commitment.** a) Think about the last time you could have shared your faith in Jesus, but didn't. How did you feel afterwards? b) Describe how one of Jesus' greatest disciples failed Him in a similar way and what we can learn from it. (See **Luke 22:54-62**.) c) What steps can you take to make your commitment to Christ known in a public way, so that you're not tempted to keep it secret?