

**BREAKING  
OPEN THE  
WORD**

June 23, 2013

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 96

Gospel Lk 9:18-24

Once when Jesus was praying in solitude, and the disciples were with him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist; others, Elijah; still others, 'One of the ancient prophets has arisen.'" Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said in reply, "The Christ of God." He rebuked them and directed them not to tell this to anyone. He said, "The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised." Then he said to all, "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."

ST. MATTHEW



ST. MARK



**Spiritual Reflection:**

When reading this passage, I often focus on the fact that the crowds answers were wrong. Maybe our focus should be on the simple fact that all the people that the disciples named were good guys. The crowd were not say that they thought Jesus was "Herod", "Jeroboam", "Nebuchadnezzar," or another Scripture bad guy. If people were to describe you would the people that they compared you to be good or bad?

**Spiritual Questions**

1. Who are some of your Scripture heroes and why?
2. Who are some of the bad guys in Scripture and what makes them bad?
3. Who would you say Jesus is to someone?
4. How would you think the world would answer the question today of who Jesus is?
5. How can you lose your life in order to allow God to save it?



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