Dear Families:

This fall, we will be focusing on the Gospel of Mark. This week, we read one of the most famous passages of Scripture. Jesus asks His disciples who everyone is saying He is. Some say that you are Elijah, or John the Baptist, or a prophet, they answer. Jesus then asks, who do YOU say that I am? Peter immediately says that Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus goes on to explain that the Messiah has come to suffer, be rejected, and killed. But Peter corrects Him and tells Jesus that's not what He's here for. Jesus gets angry and tells Peter that He's looking at things from his point of view, not God's.

Jesus then goes on to say that, if we are to follow Him, we need to deny ourselves and what we think is right. Just because it makes us feel good, that doesn't mean we should do it. We need to put aside our emotions, our attachments, and our wishes. They are of the world, not of God. Jesus says that following Him is not easy. It's "taking up a cross;" bearing a burden, suffering, and pain. But it is the only way that we will gain our souls. Jesus goes against the world. Following Jesus will make people angry with us. It will make us lose friends, family, jobs, and money. But, Jesus promises us that doing Jesus' will saves our soul. And the suffering will be more than worth it in the end. Don't be ashamed to be who YOU are- a faithful servant of God!

We also began preparations for our Christmas play- yes, already! The class has a great idea in mind. We hope you can join us as we prepare to celebrate the season!

Thanks for joining us today! Carol McClellan CE Director