

Sermon Notes – March 8, 2015
“Yes, It’s Really That Serious”
Mark 9:41-50
Pastor Bill Hoffman

What words, phrases, and images stand out to you in this passage?

All commentators point out that Jesus here is using hyperbole, exaggerated language in this passage.

- How is that observation both helpful and unhelpful in understanding what Jesus is saying?
- The phrase “causes you to sin” is a translation of the Greek verb “skandalezo”, from which we get the word scandal.
- How scandalous do you consider your sin?

If, like me, you consider your hands, feet, and eyes more important than dealing with your sins, then, according to Jesus, we either have an inflated view of the importance of our body parts or a deflated view of the importance of dealing with our sin.

- Which do you think is more likely?

I have come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly. – Jesus, from John 10:10

... let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. – Hebrews 12:1b

How might these lines help us understand what Jesus says:

- About dealing with sin in Mark chapter 9?
- About His overall goal for us being worth some sacrifice?