

**Series "The God Who Serves"**  
**"Drastic Measures"**  
**Mark 9:42-50**  
**Study-35**

**Mark 9:42-50**

**Jesus Is Speaking Of Drastic Measures That A Disciple Of Jesus Christ Will Make. There Is No Price That Is Too Great!**

**Mark 8:34-35**

**Mark 9:14-10:52 – Lessons For Discipleship**

**This passage is repeated in part – Matt 5:29-30; 18:6-11; Mark 9:42-50; Luke 17:1-2**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "The Christian's Goal To Glorify Jesus Is A Goal That Is Worth Any Sacrifice, Even Death Itself."

**1. Verse 42 – Drastic Measures For Love**

**2. Verses 43-48 – Drastic Measures For Holiness**

**3. Verse 49 – Drastic Measures For Sacrifice**

**4. Verse 50 – Drastic Measures For Obedience**

**1. Verse 42 – Drastic Measures For Love**

Mark 9:42

"And" – Mark 9:30-41 – Lesson On Humility.

Mark 9:33-37 – Jesus then holds up a child as an example of servanthood.

Mark 9:38-41

While even small acts of kindness to believers carry great rewards, so acts of misguidance toward believers carry great penalties.

Offense Against Others: "causes one of these little ones who believe"

"little ones who believe" – Mark 9:36-37: "This child represents believers who are considered His children, His precious ones, that belong to Jesus"

"to stumble," – "offend, to stumble"; Greek/English word ("scandalize") used of a stick that triggered a trap that catches prey; "to be caught in sin, to be trapped in sin, entrapped."

1 Peter 4: 8

Romans 14: 15

Directly Causing Offense

Indirectly Causing Offense

Ephesians 6: 4

Modeling Sinful Behavior Is Offense

1 Timothy 1: 5

"it would be better for him if," – 4X

"heavy millstone" – "donkey millstone"; weigh up to 2 tons and was rotated by the donkey.

Romans 12: 10

## **2. Verses 43-48 – Drastic Measures For Holiness:**

Mark 9: 43

Offense Against Ourselves: "And if your hand causes you to stumble,"

Your Hand – "What we do"; hand – "causes you to stumble," – Present tense verbs emphasize the continual struggle with temptation and with sin.

"cut it off" – Mark 7: 20-23

"it is better for you to enter life" – "God's kingdom, being born again, becoming a Christian."

"hell" – "Gehenna" which was outside the city of Jerusalem to the south, Joshua 15: 8. The Valley of Hinnom Ahaz and Manasseh, two kings, offered human sacrifices to Molech; sacrifice their babies to Molech. 2 Kings 16; 21, 2 Chronicles 28; 33

Jeremiah 19:6 – Topheth – “drum”; They would beat the drum to drown out the cries of the babies being burned to death.

2 Kings 23:10 – Became the garbage dump!

This word hell, 12X in the New Testament, 11X by Jesus, and one time by James.

“unquenchable” – We get our word asbestos. Into hell, into the unquenchable fire, “into the eternal fire.”

Matthew 25:46

Mark 9:44

Note the brackets around Verses 44 and 46. These verses were added later by scribes wanting to clarify, or emphasize what Jesus is saying. Note verse 48, Jesus actually says it.

Mark 9:45

“Your Foot” – “Where we go”; “And if your foot causes you to stumble,” – Present tense verbs emphasize the continual struggle with temptation and with sin.

Mark 9:46-47

“Your Eye” – “What we see”; “And if your eye causes you to stumble,” – Present tense verbs emphasize the continual struggle with temptation and with sin.

Job – Job 31:1

Paul – 1 Cor. 9:27

Mark 9:48 – A direct quote from the last verse of Isaiah, Isa 66:24

“Worm” – speaks of the Internal gnawing conscience; The Everlasting memory of the wrong choices that were made. (Luke 16, the rich man remembers)

“fire is not quenched” – (External) Eternal suffering and pain. (These verses need no exposition but reflection.) Isaiah 66:24

2 Corinthians 7:1

### **3. Verse 49 – Drastic Measures For Sacrifice:**

Mark 9:49

Ezra 6:9

“be salted” – Lev. 2:13

Grain Offering is an offering of consecration, offering of devotion and dedication. Salt symbolizes God’s promise, God’s covenant, God’s enduring faithfulness as you make the offering.

Romans 12:1

### **4. Verse 50 – Drastic Measures For Obedience:**

Mark 9:50

Matthew 5:13

Luke 14:34-35

“Have salt in yourselves,” – At all cost, we are to maintain the spirit of true discipleship, we must have salt in ourselves.

“and be at peace with one another.” – Mark 9:30-41, Lesson On Humility.

A Command To Sweeping Obedience, A Life That Is Unmixed.

### **Application:**

1. Drastic Measures For Love – When One Really Loves God And Others, One Would Rather Drown Than To Stumble Others.
2. Drastic Measures For Holiness – The Danger Of Leading Others To Sin Is Greatly Eliminated When We Radically Deal With Sin In Our Own Heart.
3. Drastic Measures For Sacrifice – We Are To Be A Total, Permanent, Consecrated Living Sacrifice To God.
4. Drastic Measures For Obedience – At All Cost, We Are To Maintain The Spirit Of True Discipleship, We Must Have Salt In Ourselves.