

**Pacific Growth Group – Sermon Questions**  
**Week of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**  
**Sermon Series: Journey to the Cross**  
**Sermon Theme: “An Opportunity to Take Stock”**  
**Primary Text(s): Mark 8:34-9:1**

1. The sermon opened with the idea of an inventory or stock-taking. *Why do you think regular “spiritual inventory” is important in the Christian life?*
2. Lent was described as a season to slow down and examine our hearts. *What are some things in everyday life that tend to clutter or distract your relationship with God?*
3. C.S. Lewis said that if we are on the wrong road, progress may mean turning back. *Can you think of a time when recognizing you were on the wrong path was actually a step forward spiritually?*
4. Jesus says His followers must “deny themselves.” *What do you think self-denial actually looks like in everyday life today?*
5. The sermon discussed our tendency to want control over our lives. *In what areas of life do people most struggle to trust God with control (for example: future, finances, relationships)?*
6. The turbulence illustration described the discomfort of not being in control. *How does trusting Jesus with your life sometimes feel similar to being a passenger on a turbulent flight?*
7. Jesus asks what it profits someone to gain the world but lose their soul. *What are some things people often pursue that seem valuable but ultimately cannot satisfy the soul?*
8. The sermon described conviction as being deeply persuaded that following Jesus is worth it. *What experiences or truths have helped strengthen your own conviction about following Christ?*
9. Spiritual complacency can appear as quiet drift rather than open rejection of faith. *What are some signs that someone’s faith might be drifting toward complacency?*
10. The sermon ended with a challenge to choose one intentional practice during Lent. *What is one practical step you could take in the coming weeks to help re-center your life on Jesus?*