



Scripture

35 And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” **36** And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” **37** And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” **38** Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” **39** And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, **40** but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” **41** And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. **42** And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. **43** But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, **44** and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. **45** For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:35-45 ESV)

Outline

Big Idea: We lead by serving others just as our savior served us

Point 1. Being a servant is God ordained for Jesus' followers (vv35-40)

Point 2. Being servant means saying no to the ways of the world (vv41-44)

Point 3. Follow Christ in sacrifice as his servant (v45)

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker: As a kid, what was something you always wanted to be the "greatest" at? (e.g., best at sports, smartest in class, funniest, etc.)

Point 1: Being a servant is God ordained for Jesus' followers (vv35-40)

- Why do you think James and John ask for places of honor? What does their request reveal about their understanding of greatness?
- How does he respond to their request? What does he mean when he asks if they can drink his cup?
- What are some tangible things we can do to embrace the servant-hearted way of Jesus in our daily lives?

Point 2: Being servant means saying no to the ways of the world (vv41-44)

- Why do you think the other disciples are angry at James and John? Do you think they were upset for the right reasons?
- Jesus contrasts how the world defines greatness and leadership versus how he defines them. How does the world define success and power? How does Jesus define it?

Point 3. Follow Christ in sacrifice as his servant (v45)

- What does it mean that Jesus gave his life as a ransom for many? How does his sacrifice shape our understanding of what it means to serve?
- In what areas of your life is God calling you to serve sacrificially?
- How can we encourage one another to serve more like Jesus this week?

Your Prayer

Write out a three-sentence prayer based off this passage.

