

The Way of a Servant: Mark Greatness

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." (Mark 10:35)

Worldly greatness: serve and love myself...

"What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory." (Mark 10:36-37)

- **Selfishness: what's in it for me?** – "Do nothing out of selfish ambition..." (Phil. 2:3a)
- **Vanity: who's noticing me?** – "Do nothing out of...vain conceit." (Phil. 2:3b)

For James and John, greatness in glory would mean suffering on earth...

"You do not know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?" "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared." (Mark 10:38-40)

- **Leverage: who's under me?** – "When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them and their high officials exercise authority over them.'" (vv. 41-42)

Kingdom Greatness: serve and love others...

- **Humble at heart** – "Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant..." (v. 43)
- **Committed to all** – "...and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all." (v. 44)

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. (James 2:1)

Jesus the Servant: He died our death to give us His greatness...

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45)

Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. (Isaiah 53:12)