

The Greatness Nobody Sees Notes03082026am
Mark 9:33–37

Introduction:

"The most successful leaders are not the ones who climb the fastest—they are the ones who help the most people climb."

I. The Disciples' Prideful Dispute

Mark 9:33–34

Notice the word "disputed."

It means:

- reasoning back and forth
- debating
- arguing over conclusions

The word "greatest" comes from the Greek *meizōn*, meaning:

- greater
- more prominent
- superior

II. Jesus' Radical Definition of Greatness

Mark 9:35

"If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all."

The Greek word *protos* means:

- first in rank
- foremost
- chief

He says the one who wants to be first must become: "last of all."

The word *eschatos* means:

- lowest
- least
- last in rank

III. The Illustration of the Child

Mark 9:36–37

“Then He took a little child and set him in the midst of them.”

IV. The Example of Christ Himself

Mark 10:45

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

V. The Danger of Seeking First Place

- 1. Pride distracts us from the mission**
- 2. Pride damages unity**
- 3. Pride contradicts the character of Christ**

Life Applications

- 1. Examine your motives**
- 2. Look for opportunities to serve quietly**
- 3. Celebrate the success of others**
- 4. Follow the example of Christ**

Matthew 23:11–12

“But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”