

First Baptist Church – Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: _____

“The Service Connection”

ConnectionMonth@FirstOdessa – Pt. 1

Mark 10:35-46 & Selected

The most fulfilled Christians have discovered that service over selfish wins every time!

I. Selfish Christians Ask: What do I have to gain?

Selfish Christianity Leads to...

- **Self-Centered Requests**

“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.’” Vs. 35

- **Misguided Ambitions**

“And they said to Him, ‘Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.’” Vs. 37

See Philippians 1:15-18

- **Inflated Egos**

“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?’” Vs. 38

- **Harmful Division**

“And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John.” Vs. 41

See James 3:13-16

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.” Philippians 2:3

II. Servant Christians Ask: What do I have to give?

Servant Christianity Leads to...

- **A selfless revolution that sets me apart from this world!**
“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. But it shall not be so among you.’ Vs. 42-43a
- **A selfless redefinition of my ultimate purpose!**
“But whoever would be great among you must be your servant.”
Vs. 43b
- **A selfless recalibration of my driving ambitions!**
“...and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.”
Vs. 44
- **A selfless contribution of my whole life!**
“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” Vs. 45

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

**We are selfish by nature;
we are servants by choice.**