

GRADUATE STUDIES IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP

COURSE 14: PASTORING BAD MOTIVES (Matthew 20:20-28)

August 30, 2026

SITUATION #1: THE SELFISH REQUEST

²⁰ "Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and knelt down to make a request of Him." Matthew 20:20 (BSB)

³⁵ "Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and declared, 'Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask.'" Mark 10:35 (BSB)

²¹ "'What do you want?' He inquired." Matthew 20:21 (BSB)

²¹ "...She answered, 'Declare that in Your kingdom one of these two sons of mine may sit at Your right hand, and the other at Your left.'" Matthew 20:21 (BSB)

- JAMES AND JOHN MAKE AN _____
_____.

THIS KIND OF AMBITION IS...

²² "'You do not know what you are asking,' Jesus replied." Matthew 20:22 (BSB)

- _____

1. ...OF WHAT _____ IN THE KINGDOM _____

²² "'Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?'" Matthew 20:22 (BSB)

¹⁵ "'...cup of the wine of wrath...'" Jeremiah 25:15 (BSB)

⁸ "For a cup is in the hand of the LORD, full of foaming wine mixed with spices. He pours from His cup, and all the wicked of the earth drink it down to the dregs." Psalms 75:8 (BSB)

2. ...OF WHAT _____ IN THE KINGDOM _____

²² "'We can,' the brothers answered." Matthew 20:22 (BSB)

- _____

²³ "'You will indeed drink My cup,' Jesus said. 'But to sit at My right or left is not Mine to grant. These seats belong to those for whom My Father has prepared them.'" Matthew 20:23 (BSB)

- _____

SITUATION #2: THE SELFISH RESPONSE

²⁴ "When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers."

Matthew 20:24 (BSB)

- THE OTHER APOSTLES HAVE THE _____
_____.

JESUS TEACHES TRUE GREATNESS:

²⁵ "But Jesus called them aside and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their superiors exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It shall not be this way among you.'"

Matthew 20:25 (BSB)

- TRUE GREATNESS IS NOT SELF-_____ OR
OTHERS-_____.

²⁶ "...Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave..."

Matthew 20:26-27 (BSB)

- TRUE GREATNESS IS A _____
- TRUE GREATNESS IS SELF-_____ AND
OTHERS-_____.

²⁸ "...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:28 (BSB)

- TRUE GREATNESS IS _____ YOURSELF TO _____
OTHERS OUT OF _____.

BOTTOM LINE:

GO BE _____ THE _____.

NEXT STEPS

- IS GNG FOR ME?
 - August 30th, after 2nd service. Sign up today!
- FAIR SUNDAY
 - Get your tickets for the Fair Sunday service at the GET Connected Hub after service today.
- WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
 - Sign up today and join for the "sleepover" the night before the conference.