

# The Servant's Paradoxes

**November 5, 2023** | Pastor Jonathan Pafford

## **Mark 10**

*Next Week's Passage: Mark 11:1-12:44*

### Paradox

- A principle that seemed absurd but undeniably true, contrary to the received opinion
- Unveils the window of the mystery of God

## **THE SERVANT'S PARADOXES DISCLOSED**

### 1. Two will be one (10:1-12)

#### 3 Keys to Understand the Real Issue

(1) Pharisees "test" (peirazō) - to test by soliciting to sin

(2) Pharisees wanted Jesus to take sides

(3) Completely different cultural concept of "divorce" OT/NT & today

Real Issue - Hardness of Hearts

Marriage is designed by God to be a paradox:

- God is the Author
- God is the Counselor
- God is the Sustainer
- God is the Purpose

### 2. Adults will be like children (10:13-16)

- Disciples' issue - hardness of heart
- Child-like faith - wholehearted trust out of humility

3. The last will be first (10:17-31)

Rich young ruler's issue -

Covetousness - a sinister deception that isn't easily detected, even by the most discerning

Wealth and success into the kingdom of God - impossibility.

Peter's reaction (v 28) -

Jesus' answer (vv 29-31) -

*[vv 32-34 Jesus tells the disciples a third time about His death]*

4. The lesser will be the greater (10:35-45)

James and John - consumed with their own glory

Two Metaphors

- The "Cup" - represents God's holy judgment on our sin (Ps 75:8; Is 51:17-23; Ez 23:31)
- His "Baptism" - represents complete identification with God's will at the cross (Lk 12:50; Is 53:4b, 11)

***45 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.***

5. See without sight (10:46-52)

Bartimaeus - name means unclean or defiled

Beggar on the side of the road

Rabboni - means Master

Becomes a follower of Jesus on the road

Servant  
of All 