

Small Group Notes

Sermon: 17/01/21



Simply Jesus: Greatness

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Scripture

Mark 10:32-52

Introduction

James and John reveal their vision of what it means to be great, and Jesus rebuffs them with a new, unexpected vision of what it means to be great in the Kingdom of God.

Overview

We looked at this passage through the lens of 3 points.

1. A false view of greatness

James and John ask to be seated on either side of Jesus, believing that Jesus was to be some kind of political liberator. They're clamouring for status, thinking that greatness is found in authority and power.

The desire to be seen as individually impressive as a means to greatness is still very much alive today.

2. The inverted way of the Kingdom

Jesus explains that greatness in the Kingdom is marked not by exercising power or authority over people, but in servanthood.

3. See Jesus, the servant King

Jesus isn't calling us to do something that He hasn't done most supremely. *"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*(v45)

Jesus became a servant supremely by giving his life as a ransom – paying his life in order to free us from sin and its consequences.

Just like Bartimeus, we need our eyes opened to who Jesus is. We'll become servants when we behold the servant King, who serves us.

Questions

1. What are the different ways our culture interprets 'greatness'?
2. In what ways has the cultural vision for greatness influenced yours? How does Jesus' kingdom vision for greatness (v42-44) challenge that?
3. In order to become servants, we need to behold Jesus serving us on the cross. Is there anything in your life that causes you to take your gaze away from Jesus?