

Sermon Discussion Questions

Mark 10:32-45 – The Servant Savior

Big Idea: We are Saved to Serve

In our study of Mark we've seen a three-fold pattern of Jesus interaction with the disciples as he predicts his coming death and resurrection, they respond foolishly and with confusion and Jesus teaches them about true discipleship.

- Jesus predicts his own death and resurrection (8:31-32; 9:30-31; 10:32-34)
- The disciples respond with foolish confusion (8:32-33; 9:32-34; 10:35-41)
- Jesus teaches on discipleship (8:34-38; 9:35-37; 10:42-45)

Read the three passages and compare them to each other. What details emerge in the progression of the pattern. What do we learn about Jesus' teaching on discipleship in these passages?

Jesus leads the way into Jerusalem knowing the suffering that was awaiting him there. How do you tend to deal with difficult things you must do? Do you charge ahead like Jesus or do you drag your feet? How so?

Has Jesus ever called you to follow him into a hard thing? Were you amazed, fearful, uncertain, confident, faith-filled? Describe that experience with Jesus and how did he give you certainty where there was uncertainty? Faith where you lacked faith?

Read Mark 10:35-40. We read that James and John asked Jesus a selfish question. Where do you find yourself asking Jesus selfish questions that primarily benefit your life? Ask the group to pray for you to grow in the areas that are shared.

Maybe Jesus has helped you move beyond that selfish request. How did he reveal the intent of your request and help you move to a better place?

The call here is to not be like the Gentile rulers. How do rulers and authorities in our lives "Lord it over us" and how could we live differently in light of Jesus' call, Not So With You?

How have you "Lorded" it over others in the past? If you've been transformed and live differently how did that happen for you?

A statement from the sermon on Sunday goes like this,

“It’s a race to the bottom, not a climb to the top!”

Why is it hard to race to the bottom when we want to climb to the top? What could racing to the bottom look like in our lives if we followed the Servant Savior in his example?

An excerpt from the sermon reads:

“You may have heard that we SHOULD have a

- Servant’s heart
- Servant’s attitude
- Servant’s action

But, who is every truly motivated by the SHOULD’s in life? It won’t last.

[Read Romans 12:1-2]

Here is what lasts. When I am:

- 1) renewed in my thinking (Romans 12:2) and I allow that new thinking to
- 2) penetrate my selfish heart and
- 3) that selfish heart is transformed by God
- 4) I can walk in the newness of life and then
- 5) I am FREE to live the Saved to Serve life Jesus modelled for me and you

Let’s strike a red X through the word Should and replace it with the word FREE!”

What inspires you by this idea of being FREE to live the servant life Jesus models? What strikes you as difficult to not listen to the “Shoulds” in our life? Do you agree or disagree with the idea that “should” statements are not lasting motivators?

Saved to Serve – it’s not about WHAT YOU DO, it’s about WHO YOU ARE!

How can you support each other in living the Saved to Serve lifestyle this week? What do you need from your group to help you take a next step?