

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

The Servant King

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
April 14, 2019 - Palm Sunday



Our culture sees leadership & power as a way to acquire greatness & self-actualization.

Mark 9:33-37 (NLT) After they arrived at Capernaum and settled in a house, Jesus asked his disciples, "What were you discussing out on the road?" ³⁴ But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest. ³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve disciples over to him, and said, "Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else." ³⁶ Then he put a little child among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ "Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me."

- **Humility is foundational to leadership in the Kingdom of God.**

Mark 10:32-34 (NLT) They were now on the way up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. The disciples were filled with awe, and the people following behind were overwhelmed with fear. Taking the twelve disciples aside, Jesus once more began to describe everything that was about to happen to him. ³³ "Listen," he said, "we're going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be betrayed to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to die and hand him over to the Romans. ³⁴ They will mock him, spit on him, flog him with a whip, and kill him, but after three days he will rise again."

- **Sacrifice is foundational to leadership in the Kingdom of God.**

Mark 10:35-42 (NLT) Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do us a favour." ³⁶ "What is your request?" he asked. ³⁷ They replied, "When you sit on your glorious throne, we want to sit in places of honour next to you, one on your right and the other on your left." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of suffering I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?" ³⁹ "Oh yes," they replied, "we are able!" Then Jesus told them, "You will indeed drink from my bitter cup and be baptized with my baptism of suffering. ⁴⁰ But I have no right to say who will sit on my right or my left. God has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen."

Big Idea: The Good News of Jesus enables & inspires us to become servant-leaders.

Mark 10:41-45 (NLT) When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were indignant. ⁴² So Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. ⁴³ But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

We reflect and embody Jesus Christ as servant-leaders by...

- **Seeking to serve.** v. 43
- **Taking a humble posture.** v. 44
- **Laying our lives down for others.** v. 45



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**The Servant King
#13 of 21 — April 14, 2019**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you? What was your most significant takeaway?

3) Describe some ways you see leadership and power as a way to acquire greatness and self-actualization in our culture. Give a few specific examples. How have you seen this tendency in your own life?

4) Read Mark 9:33-37. Why do you think Jesus uses the example of a child to make his point about leadership and power in the Kingdom of God? What does this say to you today?

5) Read Mark 10:32-34. Describe in your own words what Jesus is predicting? How does this picture of sacrificial leadership challenge the assumptions of the disciples about Jesus' identity? How is this different from what we view as leadership in our culture?

6) Read Mark 10:35-42. What does James' and John's request of Jesus reveal about their heart motive? What does this say about where they were finding their identity? How can you relate to these disciples?

7) How does the Gospel message answer our need for significance? How does this impact the way we view leadership and power?

8) Read and reflect on 1 Peter 5:1-4. How does Peter's challenge reflect the teachings of Jesus? How is God speaking to you through this?

9) Read Mark 10:41-45. How does Jesus contrast the view of leadership in his day with Kingdom leadership? What action steps is God asking you to take in regard to serving, humility, and sacrifice where you live, work, play, and go?



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