



Title: PREPARE THE WAY FOR GREATNESS

Main Scripture: Mark 1:1-8, 6:14-29

Jesus' greatness outshines everything else and everyone else.

(Mat 11:11)

Your greatness shines the brightest when Jesus shines the most through you.

Prepare the way for Jesus' greatness by looking at your life.

(Is 40:3-5)

Prepare a pathway for the greatness of Jesus to shine through your life.

Greatness comes when we bring some stuff low. What must come low in your life?

Greatness comes when some things rise up in your life. What must rise up?

Greatness comes when you face the challenges in your life. What challenges are really there?

(Mat 11:1-6)

Greatness comes when we keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Will you prepare a pathway for the greatness of Jesus to shine through your life?

“Prepare the way for greatness” | June 17/18, 2023

The Small Group Sermon Study

Mark 1:1-8, Mark 6:14-29; Matthew 11:7-11

Prayer: *Father God, thank You for Your love and hope. Thank You that You want to teach us and guide us. Please direct our time together and fill us with Your Holy Spirit, In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Icebreaker: What do you think of when you think of greatness? Share with the group about why that is great to you.

Read Mark 1:1-8 and Matthew 11:7-11 together. From this Scripture passage and notes from listening to the sermon, take time to discuss as a group:

- Take a minute of silence, asking the Holy Spirit to lead your thoughts, and share what seems to be highlighted for you from these passages and the sermon.
- Pastor Craig tells us that “our greatness shines brightest when Jesus shines the most through us”. Talk about your reaction to that statement. What is good and what is hard about living for the greatness of someone else?
- Preparing the way for Jesus' greatness means that some things must come down and other things must be raised up. What is in your life that is “too big”? What is in your life that is “too low?” Share whatever you are comfortable with and ask for support from your group.
- What people or places feel risky or challenging to you when it comes to sharing the greatness of Jesus? Talk about that together and pray for each other.
- In what way could you as a group show off the greatness of Jesus to others? Brainstorm some ideas and then commit to taking some action steps together.
- John the Baptist tells us that Jesus brings the gift of the Holy Spirit with Him. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us today. Will you spend time asking Jesus for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit today?

Personal Reflection:

- John the Baptist said, “He must increase, and I must decrease.” What could it be like if you prayed that prayer daily for the next week? How do you feel about praying that prayer today? Tell Jesus about the good and the challenge that you feel from that prayer.
- Do you need a heart change today? What do you need to surrender to Jesus? How will you respond to what God is showing you?
- What verse, phrase or word do you need to take with you this week? How will you act on what you've heard in your time together with your small group?

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, your greatness shines brighter than anyone or anything. Please shine Your greatness through each of us and our group to the people that you have put in our lives. Amen.*