



The Kingdom Coming

Greatness in God's Eyes

Thanksgiving Sunday, October 8/23 --- Matthew 20:17 – 28

Whoever would be great among you must be your servant. And whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.
- Matthew 20:26 – 28

God made man small and the universe big to say something about himself. - John Piper

Greatness is not measured in the number of our servants, but the number we serve. – Anonymous

Introduction: We all have a distorted view of Greatness!

1. True Greatness is Child-like and Humble (Mt. 18:1 - 4)
2. True Greatness is Forgiving and Merciful (Mt. 18:15 – 35)
3. True Greatness is Selfless and Serving (Mt. 20:25 – 28)

Conclusion: Jesus is the Greatest of All! (Mt. 11:28 – 30; 18:21 - 35; 20:28)



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Discussion Questions:

- i. What is it about Jesus' teaching on true greatness that most baffles you?
- ii. What part of Jesus' teaching on true greatness is the most difficult to apply?
 - a. *Being child-like and humble?* (Mt. 18:1 - 4)
 - b. *Being forgiving and merciful?* (Mt. 18:15 – 35)
 - c. *Being selfless and serving of others?* (Mt. 20:25 – 28)
- iii. How do you identify with the disciples in this story?
- iv. How are followers of Jesus to stand out in today's world where promoting yourself is applauded and NOT doing so is seen as weakness or lack of confidence?

Application:

Take one of the areas of true greatness from this outline and decide you will work on it this week: Child-like, humble, forgiving, merciful, selfless, serving of others.

Ask Jesus to give you an opportunity to let His grace of greatness shine through you.