

## **Recap of 11/26/23 message by Pastor Joe (Mark 10:35-45):**

1. *The context of Jesus' teaching in Mark 10:35-45 is His trip to Jerusalem and the warning about His coming betrayal, crucifixion, death, and resurrection. This is followed, as previously, with misunderstanding by His disciples and by His teaching on true greatness.*

2. *- In God's kingdom, greatness is defined by service, not status or position.*

*-We mistake authority for greatness.*

*-We often have goals pressed on us by the world so that we don't hear God's voice.*

*-Jesus goes before us in our trials (as well as our victories). "Such moments come to all lives when Jesus leads us to the cross. How often He asks for a deeper consecration; a more complete crossing of natural inclination for the sake of His Gospel; and an intenser purpose. At His bidding we must tear ourselves away from ambitions which had fascinated, and dreams which had allured. We must no longer live on the lower level, however pleasant to flesh and blood, but gird ourselves to go up to Jerusalem. He never puts forth his own sheep without going before them. He never asks us to tread a path which has not been trodden by His footsteps. Happy are they who follow Him!" (F.B. Meyer)*

*-Jesus calls us to live counter culturally, to serve not rule.*

3. *James and John press Jesus to give them places of highest authority and honor in His Messianic Kingdom (vv. 35-37); exposing a desire for power and position that also infected the other disciples (vs. 41).*

*-Jesus was not interested in producing rulers but servant. The test was not: what service can I extract from others, but what service can I render to others.*

*- "So, strengthen me that the power of my example will far exceed the authority of my rank." (God's Little Devotional Book for Men)*

4. *Too many people think they'll get the respect they want if they drive the best car, spend the most money, hang out with the hottest people (whatever they are), or flash the most impressive bling. Somehow, we started respecting things that aren't really worthy of our respect." (Tony Dungee)*