

Recap of 12/3/23 message by Pastor Joe (Mark 10:35-45):

1. Mark 10:42-44 (The Message) – “Jesus got them [the Disciples] together to settle things down. ‘You’ve observed how godless rulers throw their weight around,’ He said, ‘and when people get a little power how quickly it goes to their heads. It’s not going to be that way with you. Whoever wants to be great must become a servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave.’”

2. Jesus’ point to His disciples is that in God’s kingdom greatness is defined by service, not status or position. The early church would be confronted by just the kind of selfish leader Jesus’ describes. An example would be 3 John 9, where John penned: “I wrote to the church, but Diotrophes, who loves to be first, will not welcome us. So, when I come, I will call attention to what he is doing, spreading malicious nonsense about us, not satisfied with that, he even refuses to welcome other believers. He also stops those who want to do so and puts them out of the church.”
- “The lesson is clear. A selfish leader can bring untold grief to people under him. this holds true in a family, a church, an organization, or a nation.” (LeRoy Eims)

3. Contrast that example with the example Jesus imparted to His disciples in washing their feet at the “last supper.”
- “Having washed His disciples’ feet, Jesus explains the importance of this action. We see here a superb illustration of the idea of a ‘servant king’-someone who has authority but exercises it by serving rather than dominating others.” (McGrath)
-the message to the men who would inaugurate the church age is clear: they were to be servants not masters; servants not lords.

4. The world’s idea of greatness is to rule. Christian greatness consists in serving. The world’s ambition is to receive honor and attention. The Christian’s desire should be to attend others rather than to be attended to by others. The world’s idea of greatness is crowns and rank and wealth and high position. (Ryle) In Jesus’ words, “not so with you.”