

# LOGF NOTES 11.25.18

The Book of Mark: Who is the Greatest?

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## Memory Verse:

Mark 9:35 Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.

## Who is the Greatest?

Mark 9:33-34 They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

Did they compare stories from their ministry trips?

Who had the most salvations? Who had the greatest miracle? Who cast out the most demons?

## Greatness is Servanthood

Mark 9:35 Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

Matthew 20:26-28 Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Matthew 23:11-12 The greatest among you will be your servant. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

## To go up in the kingdom, you go down.

The one who gives their attention to the least of people and serves, gives, loves and invests is truly great. Losing oneself for the sake of the kingdom, for the sake of serving others...is truly great. Not promoting oneself. Not being in the company of the rich and famous. Not having power over people.

Jesus offers a radically different definition of greatness and one in which **everyone is capable of achieving! It is not based on comparing or competing. It is based on loving and serving.** Jesus' focus is on others.

Philippians 2:5-11 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

What Jesus did with his life validated the conviction of his words.

John 13:34 A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Why is it important to have an accurate definition of greatness?

**Whatever you value, think is important, or believe to be the purpose of your life you will chase.**

Jesus declares and models that true greatness is serving. Putting self aside for the benefit of others. To live a life of love for God and love for others as Jesus model is true greatness... and great will your reward be in heaven.

Mark 9:41 Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

### **Life Group Discussion:**

1. Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all (Mark 9:35).  
What does this verse mean to you?
2. How is Jesus' definition of greatness so different than the culture that we live in?
3. Talk about the tendency we have to compare and compete for significance.  
What does Jesus offer us instead? What is Jesus' perspective on personal significance?
4. What is the greatest thing you have ever done...according to Jesus' definition.
5. What do you think rewards in Heaven are based on?