

## ✦ week 10: A different kind of greatness - mark 10:35-45

35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

36 “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

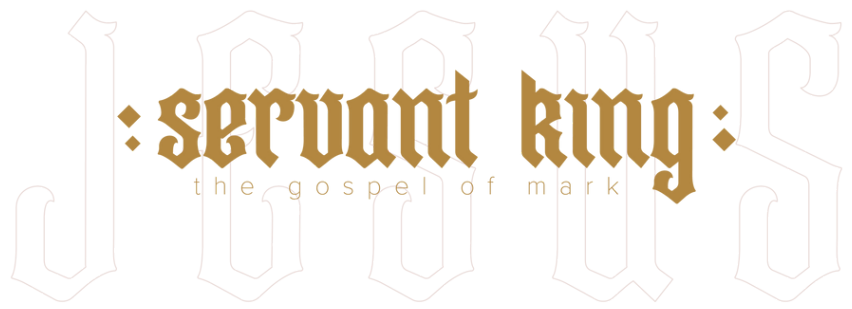
37 They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.”

38 “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

39 “We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, 40 but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”

41 When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. 42 Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 43 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



## ✦ personal study sheet

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the questions below to spend time in Scripture, dig deeper into the weekly sermon message, and to worship and pray. Each day, begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you learn and apply what you read. Then, read **Mark 10:35-45** and answer the day's questions.

### ◆ DAY 1: FOCUS ON PEOPLE AND THEIR NATURAL, WORLDLY TENDENCIES

- What has greatness meant to you? Have you had a "James and John" concept of greatness?

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- James and John ask Jesus, **“we want you to do for us whatever we ask,”** revealing a sense of entitlement. In what ways do we/people today exhibit the same sense of entitlement?

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- How is the disciples' argument about being the greatest similar to the behavior we see today?

a. Do you ever find yourself comparing yourself to others? If yes, in what ways? \_\_\_\_\_

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b. Jesus redefines greatness: He says that if we want to be great, we must serve. Why do you think people are hesitant to embrace servant leadership? \_\_\_\_\_

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c. How does Jesus' example of being a “slave to all” challenge you in your daily life? \_\_\_\_\_

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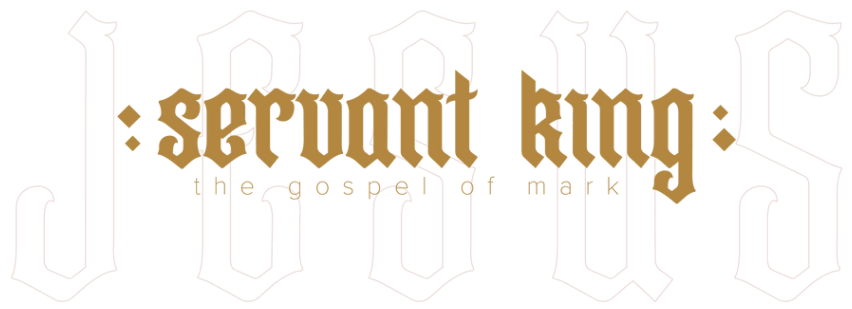
### ◆ DAY 2: FOCUS ON GOD, JESUS, HIS PLAN, AND EXAMPLE

- What does the phrase "Not so with you" signify in Jesus's teaching about leadership? What are some key differences between Jesus' leadership model and the world's approach? How might society change if more people adopted Jesus's model of leadership? \_\_\_\_\_

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- What does Jesus mean by equating leadership with suffering (verse 38)? How does suffering in leadership contribute to personal growth and character development? \_\_\_\_\_  
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- **Mark 10:45** is a key verse of Mark's Gospel. Break down its meaning word by word. Why is it so significant? What does it tell us about our God? Can you give specific examples of ways that Jesus prioritized service over status in his own leadership example? \_\_\_\_\_  
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### ♦ DAY 3: APPLICATION

- What steps can you take to redefine greatness in your life according to Jesus's teachings? \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Where do you hold influence or authority in your life? How can you practice "servant leadership" in that role this week? Consider additional steps you can take to improve your service to those around you. \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Consider ways that you can demonstrate a genuine interest in others in your leadership role – then put them into practice! \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Reflect on Adam Grant's categorization of workers as takers, matchers, and givers. Which category do you identify with the most, and why? How can you change to become more of a giver in your family, workplace, or community? If you already are a giver, consider ways you can get even better! \_\_\_\_\_  
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### ♦ DAY 4: WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Read **Psalm 24** in a time of worship and to pray.