

Serve

Mark 10:42-45

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Transition

- Them for 2024 is Serve.
- Jesus Christ the leader of the church and our LORD is --- the chief servant.
- We are created and called to serve.
- To follow Jesus and be like HIM.
- The reason I am talking about it is that I want to be humble and to see this church marked by humility.

Humility That God Sees

- I know that the best and humblest person who has walked the earth was tortured to death because he was accused of blasphemous arrogance.

John 5:18

“This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him because . . . he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God”

Conclusion

- So, I don’t expect his followers will ever be able to avoid the accusation of arrogance.
- If you are the humblest outspoken witness for Jesus as the only way to God, you will be accused of arrogance.
- Avoiding that is not my goal.
- What I want to avoid is the reality of pride.
- I want there to be real humility in me, and in this staff, and the leaders and all of us.
- The kind of humility that God sees and that spiritually discerning people see, even if the world doesn’t see it.

I. Pride destroys.

A. Jesus warns us about the destruction of pride.

Mark 10:42-43

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B. Give the context – Summarize the from Mark 10:32

1. They were on their way to Jerusalem – Jesus leading the way – **on mission**.
2. He took the 12 aside and told them what was going to happen to him.
 - a. I will be delivered over to the chief priests and teachers of the law.
 - b. They will condemn me to death and hand me over to the Gentiles
 - c. The Gentiles will mock me and spit on me and flog me and kill me.
 - d. Three days later I will rise.

Mark 10:35

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.”

3. I just want to pause right here so we can appreciate this. 😊
 - a. They are with Jesus.
 - b. He just tells them what will happen to him and why he came and they want to know if Jesus can hook them up with a visible position of authority.
 - c. Jesus – **Pick me** so everybody can see me with YOU.
4. Jesus says – ***you don’t know what you are asking.***
5. Can you really drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?
 - a. He is asking them to consider what they are asking.
 - b. Think about what I just told you and think about what you just asked.

“Can you really drink the cup I drink” is a way of saying...

– Can you really do what I am doing?

Can you really follow in the footsteps that I just laid out for you?

- Really?
- Seriously?

6. *Their like... YEP that’s right Jesus we can do that.*

7. Jesus said, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with

- a. That is going to happen.
 - b. You have no idea what it is going to take but it will happen – that I can tell you.
8. But to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant.

Remember there are 12 disciples walking with Jesus to Jerusalem.

- **James** and **John** are talking to Jesus and Jesus is not shy about his discussion with them.
 - The other 10 find out what is happening and they become **MAD** with James and John.
9. This is where our text comes in.

Mark 10:42-45

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.

C. Jesus gives them a **Kingdom Revelation**

1. Here is the earthly kingdom example you see – **right?**
2. Well, that is not how it works with my Kingdom.
 - Not so with You. – With mercy he includes them into his world.
 - He doesn’t keep them on the outside – he brings them in.

Jesus call for his followers to be servants is not because he is trying to dominate them. Or some type of control or manipulation.

Jesus’ call for his followers to be servants is because of HIS MERCY.

D. This is how we work.

1. Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.
2. Whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.
3. The reason I came was not to be served but to serve.
4. And by the way that means – giving my life as a ransom for many.

E. Jesus reveals a shocking revelation in the **KOG**.

1. In order to move up in the Kingdom you must lower yourself.
2. To go up you have to come down first.
3. It’s a reverse kingdom

One of the most important characteristics of a follower of Jesus is Humility.

Humility is a requirement for following Jesus.

Humility is freedom from pride or arrogance.

F. Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant

G. *Diakonos* – Where we get the word deacon.

Deacons in the Bible are servants.

The Bible warns about the trap of pride.

James 4:6

God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble

Proverbs 16:18

Pride leads to destruction, and arrogance to downfall.

H. Resist pride / Humble yourself.

1. Jesus is telling them that pride will destroy you.

2. I want you to be great but...

- I want your path to greatness to be lead with humility.

3. I want you to advance in my Kingdom – That is my objective for you.

Examples

- Example of Satan – Satan was expelled from heaven because of pride. He thought too highly of himself.
- Example of King Nebuchadnezzar

Daniel 4:27-33

²⁷ Therefore, Your Majesty, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue.”

The Dream Is Fulfilled

²⁸ All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹ Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰ he said, “Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?”

³¹ Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, “This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. ³² You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times

will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes.”

³³ Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.

Jesus is at war with Pride

Application

1. My hope is that today we would recognize and see Pride as the ugly, lying, heinous, destructive force that it is.
2. It's not cute or even a little funny.
3. We would recognize our desire to be **first** and **right** and **thought of highly** and **looked at** with **great esteem** and **praised** and **elevated**.
4. Pride screams for attention
5. Pride cannot stand it when someone or something is more important or more significant than itself.
6. Pride screams to be first and to be seen.
7. Look at me, I need the attention, I am more than you,
8. Repent today
9. Crucify your flesh – with the help of the LORD.

II. **Jesus requires humility.**

Humility is required for advancement.

A. The closer you grow to Jesus the more humble you become.

1. As we become more and more humble we become more and more of a servant.
2. The more we become a servant the more we reflect Jesus.
3. Jesus requires humility
 - a. It is not optional
 - b. It is not a joke
 - c. It is serious business with Jesus

Mark 10:43

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.

B. Jesus changes their world view.

Leadership is characterized by service, by being under the authority of others

HUMILITY: Living with the Right Understanding of Who God Is, Who I Am, and Who You Are

Philippians 2:3-11

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

C. Without humility you can't die to yourself.

D. Without humility you can't get close to Jesus.

1. Humility is glad that God gets all the credit for choosing us so that we boast only in him and not man.
2. Humility happily admits that everything we have is a free gift from God, so that we can't boast in it.
3. Humility is glad to affirm that God sovereignly governs our heartbeats and safe arrivals, or non-arrivals.
4. The root of Christian humility is the gospel that Christ died for our sins. That's how sinful I was. That's how dependent I am.

5. Humility gives itself away in serving everyone, rather than seeking to be served.
6. And humility is glad to affirm that this service is true greatness.

III. I will choose humility.

1 Peter 5:5

⁵In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

Colossians 3:12

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with... humility

- A. I have to put on humility.
 1. Humility is a choice.
 2. Humility requires my actions.

Colossians gives us practical steps

¹²Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Practical steps to live with humility from Colossians 3

1. Forgive others like God forgave you.

Vs. 13

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

2. Focus on loving others fiercely.

Vs. 14

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

3. Fill your heart with the peace of Christ.

Vs. 15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

4. Sing worship songs with gratitude.

Vs. 16

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly... singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

5. Represent Jesus to others with your words and actions.

Vs. 17

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Conclusion

- I. **Pride destroys.**
- II. **Jesus requires humility.**
- III. **I will choose humility.**