

“WHO’S THE GREATEST?”

Mark 9:33-37

Pastor Steve Cavallaro

I. Jesus discussed His death & resurrection. What did the disciples discuss? (vv. 33-34)

“when he was in the house he asked them”

“What were you discussing on the way?”

“But they kept silent ... they had argued ... about who was the greatest.”

James 4: pride drives our conflicts

1 Peter 5: pride drives rebellion against authority

Unbelief believes the _____ of our _____.

James 4:6;

1 Peter 5:5

“But any disciple who knows himself hears the echoes in his own life of such unfaithfulness.”

-Sinclair Ferguson

“Pride seeks to dethrone God and enthrone itself.”

-Joel Beeke

“Only he who lives by the forgiveness of his sin in Jesus Christ will rightly think little of himself.”

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

II. How does Jesus address the pride of His disciples? (v. 35)

“And he sat down and call the twelve”

“If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”

Philippians 2: Jesus didn't _____ to status, humbled Himself to _____.

Jesus: Greatness is measured by _____ not being _____.

Proverbs 16:19

Daniel 4:37; 5:20, 22

Romans 12:10

“The disciples cannot order their relationships as they please but are to recognize in one another men under whom they place themselves as servants.” William Lane

III. But Jesus isn't done. How else does He challenge our pride? (vv. 36-37)

“he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking them in his arms”

“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me ... him who sent me.”

Jesus: Greatness serves those w/out _____ not to get _____.

Matthew 25:40

James 2:2-4

“True servant leadership flips social hierarchy on its head, lifting up and serving those of lower status in the eyes of the world.” - Mark Strauss

“I am confident that the modern tenor of Christianity has little use for a God who is glorified in our failures and shortcomings.” -Anthony Carter

BIG IDEA: Jesus slays our pride & teaches us to serve.