

Ken Letson, Pastor May 14, 2023

Message Series "Disciplines of a Disciple"

"... Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness." -1 Timothy 4:7

"Training for Greatness" Matthew 20:20-28

²⁰ Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. ²¹ And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." 22 Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." 23 He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." 24 And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. 25 But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 26 It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

How Jesus would define "greatness"

Our goal:

A "picture" paints a thousand words: John 13:1-17

"More than any other single way the grace of humility is worked into our lives through the Discipline of service...Nothing *disciplines* the inordinate desires of the flesh like service, and nothing *transforms* the desires of the flesh like serving in hiddenness. The flesh whines against service but screams against hidden service. It strains and pulls for honor and recognition." –Richard Foster, *Celebration of Discipline* Why We Serve

How to Be Great

(Training for servanthood under the Master/Servant)

1. Develop _____.

"Not so with you..." (v. 25, NIV) "But among you it will be different..." (v. 25, NLT)

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How you see...

2. Relinquish _____

"...even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve..." (v. 28)

Philippians 2:5-7

3. Choose _____

"... and to give his life as a ransom for many." (v. 28)

4. Actively _____

"... rather, serve one another in love." (Galatians 5:13)

Matthew 10:42, 1 Peter 4:10

Simple truth: