

living
AUTHENTIC
discipleship

FIRST LOOK @ AUGUST 1ST

Mark 10

What does Jesus teach about true greatness? What do you think of when you hear the word servant? As you study this passage of scripture this week, you will learn the meaning of *True Greatness* and will be challenged to live as a servant of God.

MONDAY

Mark 10:1-12

Notice the question, "Can we divorce for any and every reason?" Jesus indicates that this question and the subsequent practice of the people with regards to divorce is a concession made on account of the hardness of their hearts. God's intention is that husband and wives who are joined together by the decree of God should not be separated by the decree of man.

How does Jesus perspective on divorce differ from the popular perspective in our culture?

If this is the case, what should be the aim in every marital dispute?

TUESDAY

Mark 10:13-16

It is often assumed that Jesus praises little children on account of their virtues saying that to receive the kingdom we need the virtues of innocence, spontaneity, and humility. However Jesus doesn't praise the children for what they possess, but for what they don't possess. These little children are helpless with nothing to offer. Helplessness is what is necessary to receive the kingdom, not innocence.

Do you see yourself like a helpless child with nothing to offer and everything to receive?

In following Jesus are you more enamored with what you can do for Him or with what He can do through you?

One will result in your glory - the other in His glory!

WEDNESDAY

Mark 10:17-31

In Jesus encounter with the rich young man we witness the perspective regarding possessions required for disciples. The man had kept the law and was very wealthy, so he had no awareness of his need.

Do you own things or do things own you?

Do you recognize you are needy and bankrupt or are you self-sufficient?

If you are self-sufficient then you will always go away sad!

THURSDAY

Mark 10:32-45

Jesus announces once again that his death is impending. Once again the disciples miss it. Immediately following Jesus' proclamation is the request of James & John for positions of privilege and authority. Jesus then goes on to teach his disciples about the nature of authority. Authority is given not for the benefit of the one who has it but for the benefit of those under it.

Are you submitting yourself to the authority of Jesus and the authorities he has established?

Are you using the authority you've been given for your good or the good of those under you?

How can you begin to use the authority you've been given for the good of your employees, family, members of your organization or ministry?

FRIDAY

Mark 10:46-52

The final story in chapter 10 finds Jesus bringing healing to a blind beggar. A couple of things we might see in this story: the compassionate action of Jesus as he restores this man's sight & the nature of all humanity as blind beggars dependent upon Jesus' grace.

Have you come to terms with the reality that you are a blind beggar dependent upon Jesus' grace?

Only when you come to terms with this will you be able to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and exhibit compassion toward other blind beggars!