

## Jesus Defines Greatness in the Kingdom

S.R. Mark 10:13 - 16

9 – 26 - 2021

### Introduction

A. Note the emphasis upon attitudes toward people, position and things.

#### I. Mark 10:13 – 16 Jesus Blesses the Children (Read)

A. Jesus was persistently teaching His disciples the character qualities of kingdom citizens -See Matthew 18:1 - 6

B. Whom did the disciples try to stop from coming to Jesus? a) Pharisees; b) children; c) sinners; d) tax collectors.

C. What reason did Jesus give why He wanted to receive children?

1. the kingdom of God belongs to people who are like little children.
2. (Thought question: If the kingdom belongs to those who are like little children, then are little children born guilty of sin?)

#### II. Rich Man Considers Cost Too High (Read Mark 10:17 – 31)

A. A rich young man ran up to Jesus requesting information on how to receive eternal life. (Note vs. 21 “loved him”) Matthew – “young”; Luke “ruler”

B. Many follow in this young man's steps. They desire eternal life . . . as long as they don't have to make too many sacrifices.

C. **Note -- The lack of one thing:**

D. What did the rich man want Jesus to tell him? **Answer:** He wanted to know what he should do to inherit \_\_\_\_\_.

E. What was the rich man's reaction when Jesus told him that he needed to sell all and give the money to the poor? **Answer:** He went away \_\_\_\_\_.

#### III. Greatness in God's Kingdom – Read Mark 10:32 – 45

A. For the third time, (Mt. 16; Mark 9:30 - 32; 10:32f.) Jesus warned the disciples about what was going to happen when they got to Jerusalem.

B. The other disciples were incensed.

1. James and John had gotten the jump on them. (cf. Mark 9:34)
2. They themselves wished to have the highest positions and resented the fact that the sons of Zebedee had requested them first.

3. He had not come to be served, but to serve and to offer Himself as a sacrifice for others. (Mark 10:45) "mantra"

C. **Note -- True greatness:** *We still desperately need these lessons of Jesus.*

D. What did James and John want Jesus to do for them? Answer: They wanted to sit one at Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ and the other at His \_\_\_\_\_ in His glory (kingdom).

E. According to Jesus, how can you become great in the kingdom? a) attend the biggest church with the most beautiful building; b) give lots of money; c) take a high position of authority in the church; d) humble yourself and serve others.

#### **IV. Jesus Heals Bartimaeus - Read Mark 10:46 - 52; cf. Matthew 20:29 - 34**

A. As Jesus passed through Jericho, a blind beggar cried out. "Son of David" (Mt. 9:27f.) (See Isaiah 35:5)

B. The crowds tried to silence Bartimaeus.

C. But Jesus called the blind man to come to Him and healed him. The beggar began to follow Him.

D. Few rich men followed the Lord (see 10:17-22), but many of the poor and downtrodden did. (Mt. 9:35 - 36")

E. Questions:

1. What was the name of the blind man Jesus healed (v46)? a) Peter; b) Bartimaeus; c) Thomas; d) Andrew.

2. What did the blind man keep calling Jesus (v48)? Answer: He called Him \_\_\_\_\_ . cf. Mt.1:1; 9:27; 20:29 f.

#### **V. Summary: Jesus accepted the humble folks, even though the disciples tried to turn them away.**

A. He accepted the man who worked for Him but was not in His personal company;

B. He welcomed the children;

C. He invited the blind beggar.

D. He rejected those we might have accepted: a rich ruler with so much to offer, and all those who sought position and greatness.

E. The great one in the kingdom is the servant.