

SERVING: The Joy of Christians

Matt. 20:20-28

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- The story in our text tells of a selfish request that ended in a selfless realization!
- Salome (Mark 15:40) approaches Jesus with a request.
- I don't really fault her. She did what any good mother would do. She wanted her sons to have success. To live a good life.

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- She also had the wisdom to know who to approach- Jesus Christ!
- She also had faith in the power of his word.
- Jesus doesn't answer they way she wanted.
- This request created some tension between the 12 apostles.
- Jesus acts as a referee to calm the situation.

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- We've been called to serve.
 - I Peter 4:10-11
- In tennis, serving is critical. If you can't serve then you can't be successful.
- Spiritually speaking, if you don't serve then you can't be saved.- Consider Matt. 25 and the two references to the Judgment.

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- *Serving is.....*

A CHARACTERISTIC OF GOOD LEADERSHIP

- **Consider I Tim. 4:6ff and Titus 1:5**
- **“If serving is beneath you, then leadership is beyond you.”- Tony Brown**
- **Look at the qualities of elders & deacons- I Tim. 3**

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- *Serving is.....*

LINKED TO GREATNESS

- **Matt. 20:26-27**
- **John 12:26**
 - **Jesus says that the one who serves him, God will honor.**

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- *Serving is.....*

IMITATING CHRIST

- **Matt. 20:28**
- **John 13:13-16**
- **Phil. 2:5-8**
- **Devotional song, “Make Me a Servant.” The next line is “Lord, make me like you.”**