

SERMON SERIES DISCIPLING GUIDE

Series: Abundance • Week Six: The Freedom to Give Away • Date: Mar. 2/3, 2019 • Speaker: Matt Boda

INTRODUCTION

Who is the greatest leader you have ever followed? What was it about their leadership that causes you to think about them as you do?

READ TOGETHER

Read through **Matthew 20:17-28**.

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Read verses 20 and 21 again. What request does James and John's mother make? We've all had a mom. Why do you think she would do this? (check out Matthew 19:27-28)
2. Read verses 22 and 23 again. How would you summarize the answer that Jesus gives to James, John and their mother?
3. In verse 24, we discover that the other disciples catch wind of what this little four-person huddle has been talking about. What is their response? What does their response tell us about them?
4. Read verse 25. How does Jesus describe the leadership style of the rulers and officials in His day?
5. In verses 26-27, Jesus defines how things will be different in His Kingdom as opposed to the kingdom of the world. What does He say?
6. Verse 28 provides us with Jesus' rationale for why things must be different in His Kingdom. What is that rationale?
7. Go back and read verses 17 to 19 which provides the context in which this whole conversation about greatness and servanthood takes place. What irony does this reveal to us?
8. Why is Jesus the greatest example of serving in human history? (read Hebrews 12:1-4 for more perspective)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. In a single sentence, how would you write the main point of this story? What was Jesus teaching His disciples?
2. When you read Matthew 20:26-28, does it ring as true in your life? How have you experienced what Jesus is describing in those verses?
3. As you think about any serving you have been involved in, what benefits have you experienced as a result of your involvement in serving?
4. This passage is more than a call to service. It's the revelation of all that Jesus would do on our behalf to purchase our salvation. However, it is a call to serve. Take a minute to think about how you could get more involved in servanthood. What ways come to mind? What changes might you make this week to step more deeply into serving others?

PRAYER

Take time to pray for each other that God would give you a deeper commitment to serving sacrificially as Jesus did. Pray for anyone who shared a means by which they want to get more involved in serving others.