

SERMON NOTES

Preacher: Kevin Hardy

Date: March 16, 2025

Text: Mark 10:32-45

Title: Shame, Suffering, & Service

Big Idea: Disciples follow Jesus on the path through shame, suffering and service.



I. DISCIPLESHIP & SHAME (vv. 32-34)

“See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise.” (vv. 33-34)

amazement and fear = legitimate responses when it comes to encountering Jesus

Jesus goes before them ← the pattern established by the Lord Jesus which disciples must imitate as they follow Him.

II. DISCIPLESHIP & SUFFERING (vv. 35-40)

Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” (v. 38)

James & John are still thinking about Jesus going to the throne (glory). They have a King’s crown in mind. Jesus has a different crown in mind (ie. crown of thorns/suffering).

The “cup” = Jesus’ submission to the Father’s will in becoming sin for us. (Mark 14:36)

The “baptism” = Jesus’ suffering on the cross for the sins of the world. (Luke 12:50)

“...those who were soon to be on Jesus’ right and left were to be not honoured disciples but λησται (robbers), and the setting not a throne but a gibbet (15:27).” – R.T. France

III. DISCIPLESHIP & SERVICE (vv. 41-45)

“and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (vv. 44-45)

Jesus is reminding us again that we are to be marked by humility and service – using whatever influence we have for the sake of others.

Verse 45: THE GREATEST ACT OF SERVICE

Jesus tells His disciples and He tells us why He would die for us: To SERVE us and to SAVE us!

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

To be used for personal reflection and/or sermon-based small group discussion.

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READ Mark 10:32-45

Look at verse 32. Where are they going? What is Jesus doing? Why are they amazed and afraid? In verses 32-34, Jesus predicts His suffering, death, and resurrection for the third time. Why do you think the disciples still struggled to understand what He was saying? How does the promise of the resurrection help you to keep walking the way of the cross?

How does Jesus' prediction of His death contrast with the disciples' request in verses 35-37? What does this reveal about their expectations of Jesus?

Jesus teaches that true greatness comes through serving others (vv. 42-45). How does this challenge the world's definition of success and leadership? In what ways can you apply Jesus' model of servant leadership in your home, workplace, or church?

James and John wanted positions of honor in Jesus' kingdom. Are there areas in your life where you struggle with seeking recognition instead of serving humbly?

Jesus says He came "to give His life as a ransom for many" (v. 45). What does this mean, and how does it shape your understanding of the gospel?

How does embracing Jesus' call to servanthood help us grow in our relationship with Him and others?

Who in your life needs to experience the love of Christ through your service this week? How can you be intentional about serving them?

PRAY