

**Week of October 21, 2018**

**Mark 10:35-45**

<sup>35</sup> James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

<sup>36</sup> And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?"

<sup>37</sup> And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."

<sup>38</sup> But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

<sup>39</sup> They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized;

<sup>40</sup> but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

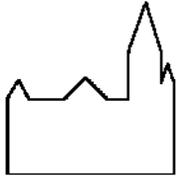
<sup>41</sup> When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.

<sup>42</sup> So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.

<sup>43</sup> But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,

<sup>44</sup> and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.

<sup>45</sup> For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."



### Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

### Gathering questions:

- A. Name a time when you didn't get something you wanted and this turned out to be a good thing.
- B. Do you have any "bad boss" stories? Why was he/she a bad boss? What do you think made them act that way?

### Bible Study Questions:

1. In verse 37, what do you think it means to sit next to Jesus "in your glory"?
2. Why do you think James and John believe that they should have their request granted by Jesus?
3. Why do you think the ten are angry at James and John? What difference should it make to them whether James and John are seated next to Jesus in the kingdom?
4. Do you think we will be truly equal in the kingdom of God? Should everyone who is saved be treated the same, regardless of how we lived our lives?
5. An angel visits you in the middle of the night and says: "Tomorrow you will lack the source of your pride." What will be gone in the morning?
6. Confess one thing that you believe about the world that is at odds with Christian belief and practice? For example, believing that showing weakness is a losing strategy would be a common belief about how the world works, yet is at odds with Jesus' teachings. How might we change the world?
7. What is way that you can upend the way you see yourself or the world, in order to effect significant change in yourself or the world?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers to make systemic changes in our lives and in the world.