

Matthew 20:20-28

3 Methods For Evaluating True Greatness



There is a story about four people named, Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody

There was a very important job to be done. Everybody thought Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about this because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody, when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Not Using Manipulation

- vv. 20-23) Jesus' encounter with Salome "peaceful")
- She comes to Jesus with request; wants sons (James, John) to be put in great positions of authority in Jesus' Kingdom on earth
- Right hand/Left hand: places of power, prestige, and authority (closest to King)
- Salome sought to use close, personal relationship with Jesus to win favor and get power for her sons

Not Pursuing Domination

- (v. 25) Jesus calls Disciples together to explain His kingdom doesn't operate the same way as the world
- The world has a different system than Jesus; system based on power, position, dominating and lording power over others
- (v. 26a) Jesus..."Yet it shall not be so among you...."

Sacrificial Service

- (vv. 26b-28) Jesus explains true, genuine greatness found in serving others
- “servant” – where we get our word “deacon” from
- “slave” – “doulos” – special type of slave; one who fulfilled terms of service and was free but chose to stay in position of service due to extreme love for master