

Who goes first?

Who goes first in the Kingdom of God?

1. *Those who go first are those who resist*
_____ . Matthew 20:20-22

2. *Those who go first are those who accept*
_____ . Matthew 20:23

3. *Those who go first are those who embrace*
_____ . Matthew 20:24-27

Matthew 20:20-28 - Pastor Bruce French

Journey with Jesus: Matthew 13:1-14:21

TAKE HOME TRUTH

Those who go first are those who go
_____ . Matthew 20:28

Today's Core Belief:

Jesus Christ: "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin – that He suffered, was crucified and buried, but rose on the third day, after which He ascended into heaven where He sits at the Father's right hand. Hebrews 1:3

Today's Action:

For the next 3 weeks practice putting others first through tangible acts of service.

hand in
hand
verse by
verse

Deeper Connection Study

After Jesus spoke the parable of the vineyard workers, he was approached with a personal request. It got a little heated when ten of his disciples showed sharp displeasure when the request was uttered. Jesus' interaction with the inquirer as well as the group of disciples focused once more on the very different paradigm Jesus had concerning honor and leadership in his kingdom.

Today's Core Belief discussed: Church.



Read Matthew 20:20-28

1. How did the mother of James and John approach Jesus and what was her request (vv. 20-21; cf. 18:1; Mk. 10:35-36)? What most likely prompted her request (19:28)?
2. How did Jesus respond and to whom did he speak (vv. 22-23)? What did he mean about "the cup" (cf. 26:39; Ps. 16:5; Isa. 51:17; Jer. 25:15-16)?
3. What effect did the initial inquiry have on the disciples (v. 24)? Why did it create such a ruckus? If left unchecked, how could such a thing destroy a team's unity and success?
4. What important leadership principles did Jesus convey to his disciples (vv. 25-28; cf. Mk. 10:45)? How did Jesus practice what he preached (cf. Phil. 2:5-8)?
5. Contrast the world's pursuit of honor and Jesus' call to humility and servanthood. How is greatness (and being first) overturned and redefined for all Christians? How should Jesus' church resemble this kingdom mindset?
6. What are some practical ways you can live out the kingdom value of servanthood expressed and modeled by Jesus? What attitudes and practices need to change for you to accomplish this?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God for the sacrificial life of Jesus Christ. Ask God to empower you to be a servant leader who humbly serves others for the kingdom.

Road to the Cross

ROAD TO THE CROSS

Matthew 20:20-28

In the weeks leading up to Jesus' arrest and crucifixion there were a number of occasions when he referenced this redemptive act. Yet in spite of the intentionality of his prophecies his disciples remained oblivious to these forecasts. One particular mention is followed by an ironic narrative in Matthew's gospel and involves two boys and their overzealous mother. This iconic exchange between "the sons of Zebedee" and Jesus depicts the ignorance of many disciples and the influence of a worldly system that they live in.

As a disciple of the 21st century you are more than likely very familiar with this narrative and the profound teaching that was birthed from it. In fact, you probably could quote the key verse related to who is the "greatest" in the kingdom of heaven. The real question though, is are you living each day as the "greatest" in the kingdom of heaven?