

ON BECOMING IMPORTANT! MARK 10:41-45

What do we find in this text?

I. Jesus **assumes** we all want to be important!

Mark 10:43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever **will** (θέλη) be great among you, shall be your minister: **Mark 10:44** And whosoever of you **will** (θέλη) be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.

Mark 10:41 And when the ten heard it, they began to be **much displeased** with James and John.

The Scripture reveals much of our heart:

1. In the desires of the heart

Thelo (θέλω) = to want, wish, desire

2. In the reaction of the other ten!

II. Jesus **also** assumes we want to be important **just like** the important ones are important!

Mark 10:42 But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over (κατακυριεύουσιν) them; and their great ones exercise authority upon (κατεξουσιάζουσιν) them.

- The issue is not being the boss, being in charge, being a leader, getting a promotion...
- Jesus knows they know how they behave
- Jesus might be twisting a few noses in this text!

Mark 10:42 But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that **they which are accounted to** (οἱ δοκοῦντες) rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.

Galatians 2:2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation (τοῖς δοκοῦσιν), lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain.

Galatians 2:6 But of these who seemed to be (τῶν δοκούντων εἶναι) somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:) for they who seemed to be somewhat (οἱ δοκοῦντες) in conference added nothing to me:

Galatians 2:9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be (οἱ δοκοῦντες στῦλοι εἶναι) pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

- Jesus forbids the Kata kind of leadership!

1 Peter 5:3 Neither as being lords over (κατακυριεύοντες) God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

This tends to manifest itself in 3 ways (matters of the heart):

1. Criticism → putting folks down

If I can't be over someone at least I can put them down!

2. Gossip → this is knowledge → the kind to have in reserve to put folks down and to feel good about yourself

3. Schadenfreude: pleasure / joy at another's pain / loss

III. Jesus establishes a **different path to importance!**

Mark 10:43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your **minister** (διάκονος): **Mark 10:44** And whosoever of you will be the **chiefest** (πρῶτος), shall be **servant** (δοῦλος) of all.

Luke 22:24 And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. **Luke 22:25** And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. **Luke 22:26** But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. **Luke 22:27** For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

Jesus is not discouraging ambition, leadership, being in charge, being the boss...

He changes:

- **How we get there!**
- **What it looks like once we are there!**

Servant Leadership: is always about the mission & them

IV. Jesus not only **establishes a different path to importance - He **models** it!**

Mark 10:45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered (διακονηθῆναι) unto, but to minister (διακονῆσαι), and to give his life a ransom for many.