



Small Group Notes

Text:

Mark 10:35-45

Title:

Transformation through service

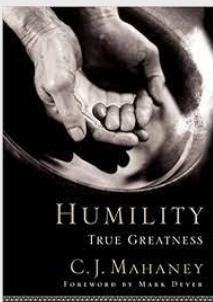
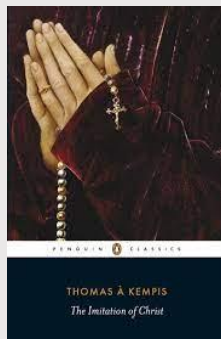
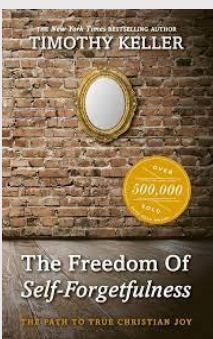
Further scriptures:

Phil. 2:3-11

John 13:1-17

Gal.5:13-14

1 Peter 4:7-11



This week we looked at the issue of pride and the hinderance it is to spiritual growth and fruitful, life-giving community. Jesus teaches and models that greatness in the kingdom is completely the opposite to how the world views greatness; it is not about elevating ourselves but about serving others.

Reflect

1. What most impacted you from the passage or from the preach?
2. What do you think about what James and John do in the passage? It's easy to scoff, but do we ever approach Jesus in the same way (see v 35)?
3. What is selfish ambition? (See Phil. 2:3-4). Why is it incompatible with a life of discipleship to Jesus?
4. 'We often see serving as a deprivation to ourselves, yet the fruit of serving is not loss, but gain.' Discuss.
5. What does Mark 10:35-45 tell us about the pursuit of greatness?

Respond

1. What impact does James and John's question and response to Jesus have on the other disciples? What impact does pride and selfish ambition have within the church?
2. Where does pride manifest itself in your life? (Look at the Practice Sheet for prompts).
3. Take some time reading through Phil. 2:3-11. Pick out all of the words and phrases that speak of Jesus' servant heart. What is our reaction to this passage?

Practice

1. Spend some time working through the Practice Sheet, identifying areas of pride in your heart and ways in which you could seek to grow in humility through serving others.

Further reading

The freedom of self-forgetfulness, *Timothy Keller*

The imitation of Christ, *Thomas A. Kempis*

Humility: True Greatness, *C.J Mahaney*