

Mark 9_30-37 Final
 The Gospel of Mark
 Sunday Morning

9.23.18

Announce: Return Invest Cards

ME: [35]

Songwriter's retreat - *don't want to help you if you can't help me*

TRANSITION: Can anyone here relate to this?

WE: [33]

Into a room, trying to figure out who I'm greater/worse than. I try to figure out the hierarchy.

A question of greatness in comparison.

- **Bad:** *Measure ourselves to others*
- **Worse:** *Measure others to myself*

Comparing ourselves (greatness) affects all our interactions (in the church and outside of it).

Are people great enough to deserve my:

- *Time*
- *Serving*
- *Conversation*

QUESTION: *Is this really how God wants you and I to live/wants to the church to be like?*

- *Social status*
- *Money*
- *Education*
- *Gender*
- *Age*
- *Race*
- *Sin Struggles*

QUESTION: HOW DO WE BECOME XIANS WHO DON'T LIVE LIKE THIS?

Transition: *What we're going to see in **Mark 9:30-37** is that the **disciples are just like us**.*

Jesus has a different understanding of greatness that if we grasp it, it will change this church and our neighborhoods.

Text, see how the text addresses this question of **greatness**, and seek to understand how we should live in light of it.

Mark 9:30–37

[30] They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, [31] for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." [32] But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

[33] And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" [34] But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. [35] And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." [36] And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, [37] "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

GOD: [30]

First Interaction: [30-32] *Caesarea Philippi to Capernaum: teaching them on the way.*

[31] Explicit **[no hiding]** passion narrative for the 2nd time – *they didn't understand.*

Why?

- *Son of Man* – Daniel 7:13 King – **everlasting dominion, glory, kingdom never-ending**

Disciples:

- *Didn't understand: King would die?*
- *Were afraid to ask:*
 1. **Peter tried it.**
 2. **Didn't really want to know.**

Second Interaction: [33-37] *Arrival at Capernaum*

- Jesus asks them a simple/loaded question **[33]**.
- **Argument**

1. Peter can't be
2. James, John, Andrew, Bartholomew, Judas

[35] *If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.*

Jesus is the greatest and demonstrates it:

- **[31]** – *The King of all [Son of Man] will die for the worst.*
 - **Cross=curse**
 - **Die by his subjects**

We are to trust in and be like Jesus:

- **[36-37]** – **Visual Parable**
 - **Child=lowest** *[mortality rate, no worker, no contribution, drained the resources]*
 - **Picks him up, sees himself as the servant, lowest.**
 - To be a disciple is to receive the lowest in Jesus' name, to not just tolerate, but to be like Jesus in this.
 - ***The King of all holds the least in his arms.***

To be the greatest is to be the servant of the least. Jesus demonstrated this on the cross and in his parable and calls the disciples to do likewise.

TRANSITION: This is the standard Jesus calls you and I to...The standard of greatness must be Jesus, no more and no less.

So what? What do we do with this tomorrow?

YOU: [15] SO WHAT?

ANSWER THE QUESTION: HOW DO WE BECOME XIANS WHO DON'T LIVE LIKE THIS?

Yes, we see ourselves as the servant of the least (the lowest). If we all did this nobody would be greater than anyone else.

Illustration: Chip and Dale Cartoon

- You go first – No You go first
- I'll serve there – No I'll serve there
- I'll bring a meal – no I'll bring a meal

Big Idea: Our standard of greatness must be Jesus, no more and no less.

You will stop the comparisons and be most like Jesus when you believe and live like you're the servant of the least.

Be like Jesus, the King.

- **Posture** is in **relation** to the **King**, not ourselves
- **Jesus=died** for the least (**us**)
 1. **Servant**
 2. **Greatest/became least**

This means that nobody is greater than anybody.

- *Twitter*
- *Workplace*
- *School*
- *Mom's group*
- **Non-Xian**
 - We're not better than you. We simply see the King and our need for him.
 - All our wrongdoing, our rebellion, our guilt = placed on Him

WE: [10]

Let me dream a moment –

How would life be different if we lived like this and loved like this?

- **CHURCH**
 1. R2R, moving, Car Care Day
 - a. More of this
 - b. No social, monetary, racial, gender divides.
 2. Children's ministry – there is a massive need

- **NEIGHBORHOODS**

This isn't the world, but this is appealing to the world.

The disciples in Acts practiced this...and the gospel went forward in word and deed.

Prop: You will stop comparing when you assume you're the least and serve everyone else...just like Jesus.

Pray

BENEDICTION: Mark 9:35