

Pursuing True Greatness

Mark 9:33-37

- I. **The Tempting Quest for Personal Greatness (Mark 9:33-34).**
 - A. Jesus confronts the disciples who were arguing about which of them was the greatest (33).
 - B. The disciples try to hide their pursuit of greatness (34).
 - Our natural bent toward comparing and ranking ourselves reveals our selfish quest for greatness.
- II. **The Humbling Path to True Greatness (Mark 9:35-37)**
 - A. Jesus sits down to teach the disciples that those who want to be first must be last and must be servants of all (35).
 - We can be released from our quest for greatness only by shifting our focus to just pleasing God.
 - Greatness in God's eyes is measured by service.

What is Serving?

- Serving means that I don't expect _____.
- Serving means that I willingly accept that my role is to benefit _____, not me.
- Serving means seeing a need and meeting it without _____.
- Serving means working without _____ or _____.
- Serving means that I submit to the _____ of others.
- Serving means that I expect _____ work and _____ circumstances.

- B. Jesus said that if the disciples "welcome" little children with respect, they are actually welcoming God (36-37).
 - Greatness in God's eyes is best measured by how we serve those who seem to be the least important.
 - When we serve the less "important," we actually serve God.