

Text: 20: 20-28 (ESV)

20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. 21 And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." 22 Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." 23 He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." 24 And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. 25 But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 26 It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, 28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The Expected Reality of Life

1. John 15: 18-19 (ESV)

"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

2. John 16:33 (ESV)

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

3. James 1:2 (ESV)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds

4. Romans 5:3 (ESV)

More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance

In the Context of our Community:

What event(s) changed the hearts of the disciples from being self-serving to becoming others-serving?

1. They saw the cross
2. They saw beyond the cross – the resurrected Christ

What is the characteristic of the resurrected Christ? They are the marks of humility of what he has done here on earth. These marks of humility being the holes in his hands and his sides. Jesus is the humble King, yesterday, today, and tomorrow. He does not change.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some excuses that prevent us from serving others?
2. Does serving others bring you joy? If not, what might this mean? How can we change this?
3. Do you feel like you are missing God's purpose for your life, similar to how the disciples misunderstood about greatness in the kingdom of God?

4. What does it mean to you that in heaven, Jesus is still serving? How does this change your perception of heaven? How does this change the nature of our community in the present?
5. What are some traits of false-humility that was talked about in the sermon? Do you recognize any of it in your own life?