

LIFE OF A SERVANT**True Discipleship****Mark 10:32–52**

“Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:43–45

Day 1: Read Mark 10:32–52.

1. Note briefly what is said and done in each of the following passages. Do you detect a pattern?
 8:31: 9:31: 10:33-34:

 8:32-33: 9:33-34: 10:35-37, 41:

 8:34-36: 9:35: 10:42-45:
2. The three predictions of Jesus’ passion are framed by two healings of blind men (8:22–26 and 10:46–52). What do you think is the significance of this?
3. Verses 33 and 34 contain Jesus’ most detailed description of what awaits him. What details are new to this prediction? (Compare with 8:31 and 9:31.)

Day 2: Read Mark 10:35–45.

4. What do James and John want? What do they think the granting of their request would mean for them?
5. What does their request say about what they think Jesus’ mission is? How well have they been listening since chapter 8?
6. How do the other disciples react? What does this reveal about their hearts?

Day 3: Read Mark 10:35–45.

7. What does Jesus have in view here when he speaks of his “cup” and “baptism” (vs. 38)? (cf. vss. 33–34; 14:36; Lk. 12:50)
8. What Old Testament imagery lies behind his use of “cup”? (Is. 51:17–20; Jer. 25:15–18) Why is this image an appropriate way to describe Jesus’ death? (Is. 53:5, 8–10; Gal. 3:13)
9. Mark writes in one other place of positions at Jesus’ right and his left. In what context does this wording appear? (15:27)

10. James and John wanted a shortcut to glory, as we all do. But what is the prerequisite for sharing in Christ's glory? (Rom. 8:17; 1 Pet. 4:13)

Day 4: Read Mark 10:42–45.

11. How do the “Gentiles” Jesus speaks of in vs. 42 define greatness? How does our society define greatness? How does Jesus define greatness?
12. Describe the status and existence of a slave.
13. Jesus himself sets the example for the humility he preaches. What two verbs does Jesus use to describe his mission?
14. From what kind of position does a person need to be ransomed? Why did we need Christ to ransom us? (Jn. 8:34–36; Gal. 4:3–7; cf. Mk. 8:37)
15. What is the consequence for us of having been ransomed by Christ's death? (1 Cor. 6:19b–20a) How does this affect the way believers live? (Rom. 15:2–3; Phil. 2:3–8; Jn. 13:12–17; 1 Jn. 3:16–18) How does this affect your life?

Day 5: Read Mark 10:46–52.

16. What is Bartimaeus' position in society? How did the crowds respond to him? Why? How do you respond to people like Bartimaeus?
17. Compare Bartimaeus (vss. 47–48) with some others that Jesus helped (2:3–5; 5:22–23; 7:25–30). What do these people have in common?
18. What does Bartimaeus call Jesus? What might have been in his mind when he used this title? (Jer. 23:5–6; cf. Mt. 21:8–11)
19. How did James and John answer the question, “What do you want me to do for you?” (vs. 36)? How does Bartimaeus answer the same question (vs. 51)? How do you answer it?
20. What does Bartimaeus do once he is healed?
21. How does Bartimaeus exemplify discipleship?