Greatness

Luke 22:24-30
November 17, 2024

The Big Idea: Christ redefines what it means to lead and be great. Greatness in God's Kingdom is defined by our willingness to serve others, not by our desire for power or recognition.

Luke 22:7-23 (ESV)

22 [24] A dispute also arose among them, as to *which of them was to be regarded as the* ***greatest***.

PRINICIPLE: When you are focused on promoting yourself, it doesn't take much to start an argument.

PRINCIPLE: Pride, self-promotion, and a need to be in charge will always result in a failure to consider Jesus and what He is doing.

[25] And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors.

PRINCIPLE: A true leader is the one who gives to others with no calculation about what they now owe him/her in return.

[26] But ***not so with you***. Rather, *let the greatest among you become as the youngest*, and *the leader as one who serves*. [27] For who is the greater, *one who reclines at table* or *one who serves*? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But ***I am among you as the one who serves.***

PRINCIPLE: God's servants should be distinctly different in attitude and actions from those who serve without knowing Him.

PRINCIPLE: Jesus' servants, by a choice of their wills, put others and their needs ahead of themselves.

Jesus, the Ultimate Servant

Mark 10:45
John 13:3-17
Philippians 2:6-11

[28] "You are those who *have stayed with me in my trials*, [29] and *I assign to you*, as my Father assigned to me, *a kingdom*, [30] *that you may eat and drink at my table* in my kingdom and *sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel*.

PRINCIPLE: In spite of their weaknesses and failures, the disciples had stood by Jesus during His earthly ministry, and God would honor them for their faithfulness.

God's Promise to Humble Servants: "The Father sees you and what you are doing and in His time He will reward the faithful for what they have done in Jesus' name and for His glory."

He who does not serve God where he is would not serve God anywhere else.
– C.H. Spurgeon