

SERMON NOTES: October 11, 2026

Understanding Kingdom Greatness TRUE GREATNESS

Matthew 20:17-19

- **The INTENTION of Christ**

- **The RESURRECTION of Christ**

- **The CRUCIFIXION of Christ**

As Jesus was about to go up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and on the way He said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and will hand Him over to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify Him, and on the third day He will be raised up.”

Life Group Study Questions

Understanding Kingdom Greatness

TRUE GREATNESS

Matthew 20:17-19

1. Describe something you think is great. Why is it great? Should everyone think it is great? Is this just an opinion?

2. Jesus states for the third time in the Gospel of Matthew His intention to go to Jerusalem and die. How does this remove any thought of the Crucifixion being a tragic accident?

3. What evidence can you produce from the rest of Scripture that Christ's death and suffering were always God's plan?

4. Jesus literally "walks ahead of the disciples" toward Jerusalem (Mk. 10:32). How have you experienced this moment of following Christ into a future you would rather avoid?

5. Jesus sovereignly knows all that will happen to Him. How does this contribute to His greatness and exceed our own willingness to encounter hardship? Name something you would not do again if you had known the cost.

6. The N.T. always refers to "the sufferings" (plural) of Christ when it speaks of His Crucifixion. Why is that?

7. The greatest pain of the Crucifixion was not physical. What was the true pain that Christ bore on the Cross? Why did Pastor John speak of "Three Infinite Hours" of darkness?

8. Why is "It is finished" the greatest statement of victory ever made?

9. The resurrection is the validation of the Father that Jesus is the one and only GREATEST. Read Philippians 2:3-11 as a group and share what strikes you about Christ's greatness.