

Group/Individual Study

Series: Questions Jesus Asked: "What were you arguing about?"

Passages: Mark 9:30-37, Philippians 2:5-11

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 10/29

1. Read Mark 9:30-37. How would you contrast what Jesus is talking about in verse 31 with what the disciples were preoccupied with in verse 35? How do these two verses illustrate the difference between how the world defines greatness and how God defines it?
2. Read Philippians 2:5-11. Jesus gave up so many "rights," "perks," and privileges of being God's Son in order to live into God's redemptive purposes in the world. How do people follow this type of a path to greatness in God's eyes? Who do you know that typifies this? Tell of a time when you followed this path. What was it like?
3. In verse 35 Jesus said: *"Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."* Think through the realities of what goes into a day in your life. In practical terms what are some examples of how you could express what Jesus is advocating? When and where does your flesh most resist living this way?
4. What helps you get beyond fleshly objections and live like a servant to others? Who are the people or groups you feel God has called you to serve this way? Are some that are easier than others?
5. In fleshing out this idea for the disciples, Jesus took a child in His arms and said, *"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."* Explain Jesus' metaphor here. How does "welcoming one of these little children" embody the descending path of greatness Jesus is advocating?