

True Greatness

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, March 17, 2019; Tyler Clark

Sermon Theme: This King is NOT only the Son of Man, but also the Suffering Servant. Therefore, Jesus calls us to repent and believe the gospel, which means that we devote our lives entirely to Him, denying ourselves, and seeking to serve the least of these.

I. Greatness Predicted – Read Mark 9:30-31

- A. Mark 9:31 marks Jesus' second prediction that He will be killed and rise again. As you look at 8:31 and 10:33, what pattern do you recognize in each prediction and its following teachings?
- B. Jesus predicts that He will be "*delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him*" (Mark 9:31). Who do you think is the primary actor behind that delivery and why is that significant?

II. Greatness Redefined – Read Mark 9:32-41

- A. The disciples fail to understand Jesus' teaching in Mark 9:31 because they are blinded by their own pride. What areas in your life is pride blinding you from seeing the greatness of Jesus?
- B. When we rightly understand the greatness of Jesus and realize how much He humbled Himself to rescue us from our sins, serving becomes a delight. Practically, how can you keep the greatness of Jesus in the forefront of your mind? What kind of daily impact would that have on your life?
- C. What is the meaning of the enacted parable in Mark 9:36-37? Are you really willing to serve the "*least of these*"? How are you tempted to view relationships as a means of getting something?
- D. How can you sacrificially serve others in your home? In your workplace? At Proclamation?

III. Greatness Explained – Read Mark 9:42-50

- A. Loving your brother or sister is bolstering and encouraging him or her in their faith. What would be some examples of ways in which a person could cause another brother or sister to sin?
- B. In what areas of your life are you prone to treat sin lightly? In what ways do you tend to view sin as a pet that you are trying to control rather than an executioner that is seeking to kill you?
- C. Are there areas in your life where you need to take more drastic steps against sin? What are they and what would that look like? Who is helping you to put that plan in place to take those steps?
- D. How do you interpret Jesus' phrase, "*For everyone will be salted with fire*"? What are some ways in which you can maintain your saltiness in a culture that is hostile towards Christianity?