

True Servanthood

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, April 28, 2019; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme – True faith is NOT spiritually blind to the reality that Jesus is the Suffering Servant who willingly lays down His life for our salvation, but sees it with clarity and responds to it with conviction, living a life in joyful obedience by serving God and others.

I. Prediction of Servanthood – Read Mark 10:32-34

- A. How would you summarize where we're at in the Gospel of Mark right now? If you were to provide an outline of Mark, what are some of the major markers from Mark 1:1 to 10:31?
- B. If you look forward to the rest of Mark (chapters 11-16), when do the specific events listed by Jesus in verses 33-34 take place? How would you describe the accuracy of Jesus' prediction?
- C. Why do you think the disciples and the crowd of followers are amazed and afraid in verse 32?

II. Explanation of Servanthood – Read Mark 10:35-45

- A. How would you describe the questions that James and John ask Jesus in verses 35-37?
- B. What does Jesus mean when He says they cannot drink the cup that He will drink or be baptized with the baptism with which He is baptized? What cup and baptism is He talking about?
- C. In verse 41, the rest of the disciples are indignant with James and John. Why are they so mad?
- D. According to Jesus (verses 42-44), how is greatness in the kingdom of God radically different than greatness in the world? In what ways are you tempted to seek greatness in the world? How and why is Jesus the greatest example of greatness (verse 45)?
- E. How would you like to grow in sacrificially serving others in your home, workplace, and church?

III. Illustration of Servanthood – Read Mark 10:46-52

- A. In what ways does Bartimaeus demonstrate that he has a clear understanding of who Jesus is and who he is? Why do you think the blind beggar is so persistent in getting Jesus' attention?
- B. What connections and comparisons do you make between the blind beggar and the disciples in their interactions with Jesus? How is Bartimaeus a glorious example of true discipleship?
- C. How would you like to grow in putting ignorance and arrogance to death in your life? What are some practical steps that you can put in place to cultivate humility in your life?