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The Jesus Identity

Studies in Mark's Gospel

Apart from Jesus, who are the 3 greatest people to ever have lived?

What makes for true greatness?

Introduction: Mark 10:32-45

Jesus has now set his sights on Jerusalem. Those travelling with him are 'astonished' at his resolve and 'afraid' of what will happen when they arrive.

Read Mark 10:32-34

1. This is now Jesus' third prediction of his death and resurrection. What information is new here? (compare Mk 8:31 and 9:31)

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2. What do you notice about the disciples' actions immediately following Jesus' three announcements of this most important news?

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Read Mark 10:35-45

3. What exactly are James and John asking for?

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4. What do you think motivates James and John to ask for this? Why do you think the others are 'indignant' (v41) ?

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5. What is the cup and baptism of Jesus?

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6. How might Jesus' use of the word 'baptism' here inform our understanding of the Christian practice of water baptism?

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7. How is true greatness measured in the kingdom of God?

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8. What do you think is the difference between being ‘a doormat’ and being the ‘slave of all’?

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9. Being ‘slave of all’ can be difficult. What have you found helpful when serving others?

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10. Jesus put himself, the Son of Man, forward as an example of being ‘slave of all’. He has come to give his life as a ‘ransom’ for many. What is a ransom?

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11. How can one man put his life forward as a ransom for others?

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Look up Daniel 7:9-14 for a description of the ‘Son of Man.’ Notice his ‘greatness’. It is this Son of Man who gives his life as ransom.

Give God thanks in prayer that the great Son of Man gave his life as a ransom for yours.