

Taking It Home:

- In Mark 9:32, the hearts of the disciples is revealed by their fear to ask what Jesus meant. They knew enough to know they didn't want to know more. Are there areas of your heart that you are holding back from God because you are afraid of the change He wants to see in you?

- What leadership principles can you draw from these passages?
 - Mark 8:31-38

 - Mark 9:30-32

 - Mark 10:32-34

 - Mark 10:35-45

- Mark demonstrates that Jesus is on a path of obedience and humility, which will lead to His death, burial, and resurrection. In spite of frequently being misunderstood, Jesus stayed the course. Are there times when your obedience to God causes others to misunderstand you? How does the example of Jesus serve to encourage you?

The Ransom
Who is the Greatest?
Mark 9:30-37

Dr. Matthew St. John
Bethel Church
June 1, 2014

Who is the Greatest?

Notes:

For a restatement of Pastor Matthew's sermon points, visit pastormatthew.net and click on the "Write This Down" tab.

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit www.bethelcf.com.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of June 1, 2014

Mark 9:30-37

Quick Review: Jesus interrupts an argument between His disciples about who is greater in the Kingdom of God. Following the experience of James, John, and Peter at the mountaintop, it is natural to think these twelve men would get into an argument about who is the best fit for their plans of assuming political power. Deep in their DNA, this small band of men were raised to believe that when the Messiah came, he would be a warrior ruler, a political leader, a benevolent dictator. Having seen Jesus at the top of the mountain with Moses and Elijah the excitement must have overwhelmed the men and caused them to think NOW is the time when Jesus would assume his rightful place as King of Israel and drive out the Roman powers. Foiling all of their natural thinking, Jesus again reminds them that His kingdom will be nothing like what they expect. Jesus is introducing a Kingdom marked by obedience to the Father and humility in service to Him.

My Story:

- When you think of a leader you want to follow, what comes to mind first?
- Is there anyone in your life that frequently, “doesn’t get it,” and it drives you crazy? How do you respond to them?
- Where can you most easily relate to the disciples in Mark 9?

Growing Deeper:

- Read all of chapter 9 and notice the other place where Jesus interrupted the arguing disciples. How do they respond to Jesus’ interruption in 9:16; 28-30? How did they respond to His question in 9:33-34? What does their response tell you about the condition of their hearts?
- Mark reveals at least three times where Jesus tells His disciples He is going to die: Mark 8:31-38; 9:30-32; 10:32-34. Why is Jesus predicting His death important to Mark? What is unique about each time Jesus tells His disciples He will suffer?
- In thinking about the work of Jesus on the cross, consider also Paul’s words from Romans 5:8 and Romans 8:32. Why is the atonement important for you and me?
- Compare 9:35-37 and 10:43-45, Jesus introduces the young child into the story. How did the example of the child reinforce and contrast their earlier argument about status?