

# A Word from Our Preaching Pastor:

Sunday, August 9, 2009

“Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant;  
<sup>44</sup> and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all.

<sup>45</sup> “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,  
and to give His life a ransom for many.”

## **Mark 10:43-45**

Our Brother, Paul Washer, likes to say that, “*There are  
no great*

*men of God, just poor, weak, pitiful men who serve a Great God!* I believe that’s true, And I think there are few places in Scripture that demonstrate this truth more clearly than this passage we’re looking at this morning.

We watch these disciples with amusement, and even some revulsion. Here Jesus has just told them in v **34** that He is headed up to Jerusalem to die, but all they can think about is themselves! James and John are jockeying for position, trying to gain the best seats in the administration for themselves. And when the others get wind of it, they’re furious – or as Mark says, “*they began to feel indignant!*”

*Why?* What made the other ten upset? Obviously the fact that they all secretly wanted those same places of influence for themselves! And now James and John have jumped the gun and tried to claim them first! It’s a terrible display of flesh and of selfishness – and among the leaders of the church, no less! And we’d be shocked, if we didn’t know that each and every one of us is capable of exactly the same thing!

Am I wrong? Don’t we all have this tendency to advance our own cause and stake our own claim first, before thinking about others? So, because these are the future leaders of the church, Jesus pulls them aside and begins to teach them how different the kingdom of God is, from all the kingdoms of this world, and how different we must be, as His people, in the way we look at and handle this issue of leadership under the authority of God’s Word.

*Following Him!*

*Pastor Scott*