

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 4, Day 1

Prayer: Lord, we ask that you continue to be with everyone during this time of severe storms. Please be with all those who are in need. Help them to feel your presence and a peace beyond understanding.

As you read the following verses, answer the questions and then compare your answers with those that follow.

Who is in the text?
What is happening in the text?
When does the story take place?
Where does the story take place?
Why is this story in the Bible?
How does this story relate to me and my life?

Mark 10:33-45 New King James Version (NKJV)

33 "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; **34** and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again."

35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask."

36 And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

37 They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory."

38 But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

39 They said to Him, "We are able."

So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; **40** but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared."

41 And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. **42** But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority

over them. **43** Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. **44** And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. **45** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Who: Jesus, also referred to as Son of Man and Teacher, chief priests, scribes, Gentiles, James, John, the other ten disciples

What: Jesus predicts His own death the third time. This time He is the most specific. He shows power, foreknowledge and purpose. Even though He is preparing to die on the cross, He still takes time to lead His disciples and to teach them how to be a servant leader.

When: The time period directly leading to the death of Jesus.

Where: Jerusalem

Why: Most people of this time believed that Jesus had come to establish an earthly kingdom. They did not understand that He came for their hearts and to give them access to a heavenly kingdom through His death and resurrection.

How: (This answer should be personal to each individual.)

Prayer: Lord, thank you for sending Your Son to die for my sins. Thank you Jesus Christ for willingly dying in the cross so that I can spend eternity with You.

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 4, Day 2

Prayer: Lord, please help me to establish areas of my life where I am a leader and how I can serve others as I lead them. Show me the areas I need to focus on to be the Christian leader You have called me to be.

We are all leaders of at least one area of our lives. From the stay at home mom to the CEO of a major corporation whether we fully realize it or not, we all lead every day. As you read through the following verses, apply them to yourself as that leader.

35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask."

36 And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

Selfish and Leadership never go together. Jesus had just told His disciples about His impending death and their thoughts were on themselves. Think about the best boss you

have ever had. What made him or her the best? How did she/he exhibit the difference between being a boss and a leader. How can you use their example as a model?

37 *They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory."*

Positions can be given, but leadership is always earned. Leadership is influence. People will not follow you unless they choose to. If they are required to obey you, they will probably do that but not actually follow you. Leadership is also getting a group of people to go one direction. We must earn a leadership position as opposed to being given a title.

As stated before, we are all leaders in at least one area of our lives. Have you earned a leadership spot or do you simply have a title and position?

38 *But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"*

Leadership has more pains than perks. Leadership is an honor and can be very rewarding but can also be a very heavy weight that needs to be carried at times. When is your leadership a heavy weight this is difficult to carry? What can you do to make the weight lighter?

40 *but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared."*

"Prepared for" Everyone Leads but Leaders are called. Jesus did not get onto His disciples as ambition in leadership is a great thing. Even though He was headed to the cross to die, He took the time to instruct His disciples on how to be successful.

The lesson Jesus taught the disciples is still relevant today. In this story we can learn how to be a great leader.

Are you prepared to be the leader Jesus Christ wants you to be? If not, what can you do to become prepared?

Prayer: Lord, please help me to be a leader and not lord over my followers. Help me to lead in a way that people want to follow me. Help me to be the leader you want me to be.

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 4, Day 3

Prayer: Lord, speak to me today about how to be a better leader and to lead as a Christian and not as the world would have me to lead.

42 But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

World System Leadership The world system of leadership is based on using position for power and domination. If a person uses their position for dominance, they do not understand influence.

Do you use your position to lord over your followers or do you lead your followers by example?

The chances of a rebellion are very high in situations where people feel dominated instead of led. We all have an innate need to be free and when we feel our freedom is being taken away from us, we will either silently or outwardly rebel.

The military and some businesses recognize that a system where people are lorded over are not successful so more and more they are adopting a servant leadership model. We have to be careful though; we cannot simply say that we are going to use the servant leadership model, we have to have a heart transplant. God can change your heart. All you need to do is ask that He give you a servant heart for leading the way He would have you to lead.

43 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.

Christian Leadership Christian leadership is a conscious choice. It involves making a decision and following through with it. We have to flip the world's value system upside down.

How do you define greatness?

Why do you want greatness?

The first step toward the greatness God wants for you is to serve. Saved people serve people. There are several areas at River Valley that this can be applied.

- Do you attend one of the outside (8:30 or 12:30) services? Do you move up to the front and to the middle of the rows? Do you look for guests and greet them and help to make them feel welcome?
- Do you volunteer in an area during one service and worship during one service?

(During all services on Sunday we had sign ups for all of the areas that are looking for volunteers. Please pray about the area in which you are being called to serve in and be ready to sign up next Sunday.)

Prayer: Lord, please help me to be the servant leader You have called me to be. Help me to allow You to change my heart and mold me into the person You want me to be. Help others to see You in me through my service to You and others.

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 4, Day 4

Prayer: Lord, thank you for sending your Son to die for my sins. Thank You for the best lesson and example of what a true servant looks like. Please help me to learn from You today.

45 *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

Jesus demonstrated the ultimate in servant leadership when He died for our sins. Even in preparing to give His life, He was still serving others as He washed His disciples' feet and taught them instead of rebuking them.

Earlier James and John were wanting to get a place of prominence. They did not realize that Jesus came to give LIFE. Is there anything that you are trying to get from God so much that you are missing what He wants to give you?

Servant Leadership involves a lot of areas. Think of your leadership style as you answer these questions:

- Do you show or explain what you need from your followers and then trust them to get the job done? When your followers are not doing what is expected do you redirect/retrain or do you just step in and do it for them?
- Do you give compliments when confrontation is needed to avoid conflict?
- Do you give them what they want or what they need?

Those who are true servant leaders flip power to empowerment. They give those under them responsibility and authority for the shared vision. What changes can you make to help your followers become empowered?

Prayer: Lord, thank you for showing me by example how to be a great leader. Help me to stay focused on the plan you have for me.

Re.Mark.Able Study

Week 4, Day 5

Prayer: Lord, please help me to pray through a plan today for me to take the first (or next) step in becoming a servant leader. Help me to hear what the Holy Spirit would have to tell me today.

People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. We show people how much we care about them by serving them well.

How do you serve God by serving:

- your family
- your church
- your community
- your co-workers
- those who can do nothing for you.

Which of these areas are you doing well in? Be sure and thank God for being with you in these areas and praise Him for His blessings.

Which of the areas do you struggle with? Today is the day to come up with a plan! Don't wait and say you will do it later when you have enough time. You will never have enough time as things will always come up. Take the time to come up with a plan for what He would have you to do.

Is there an area at River Valley that you are being called to get involved with? What is holding you back?

- Where do you feel led to serve at River Valley?
- Who do you need to contact?
- When will you contact them?
- What gifts or talents is God calling you to use or develop in that area?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you so much for Your love and protection this week. Please help me to stay focused on Your plan for me and to look to you as my leader and example to follow. Help me to stop looking at what is important to others and to focus on what is important to You.

