**Elder Berry Ross \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ November 7, 2021**

**An Overconfident Ambition To Greatness.
Mark 10:35-45**

**Key Truth:** Jesus is the greatest example to follow that leads to greatness in His kingdom.

1. Greatness in the Kingdom depends on who you follow.

 A. Not everyone cooperates with God’s Kingdom agenda.

 B. A self-centered agenda is not acceptable. **Mark 10:35-37**

 1. The sons of thunder displayed selfish desires.

 C. Paul understood God’s kingdom agenda. **Philippians 3:1-11**

2. Greatness in God’s Kingdom is nothing like the world's.

 A. World leaders are hungry for prestige and honor.

 B. World leaders are domineering over their people.

 C. In the world system dishonesty is encouraged.

3. The cross is at the center of Kingdom greatness.
 A. Greatness starts at the cross. **Mark 10:34**

 B. Aspiring for greatness involves sacrifice. **Mark 10:38**

 C. Suffering awaits those would be great. **Romans 6:3**

4. Greatness in God’s Kingdom is about following Jesus.

 A. Jesus led the way to greatness. **Mark 10:32**

 B. Jesus sought to do the will of the Father. **Luke 22:42**

 C. Jesus was sold out to serve others.

 D. Jesus gave us His all. **Mark 10:4**

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Jesus has shown us that selfishness in His kingdom will never lead to greatness. Pray and ask God to guard our hearts and protect us from selfish ambitions as we go about administering kingdom service.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

What specific qualities make a great leader, in your opinion?

What words come to mind when you hear the word “servant”? What are some common assumptions we make or hear about serving?

What are some reasons leaders are motivated to serve others?

Read Mark 10:42-45: How was “greatness” most commonly demonstrated or pursued in Jesus’ culture?

How is “greatness” defined in our culture today?

What does Jesus say about true greatness?

In what ways are Jesus’ words here counter-cultural both today and in Jesus’ day? What does this say about the condition of the human heart and our natural assumptions about service?

Have a volunteer read Ephesians 4:11-13.

To whom did the Lord Jesus Christ give these gifts? What do these gifts have in common?

How are the specific gifts in these verses essential to our mission of making Jesus known and making disciples?

Are church leaders responsible for carrying out all the ministries of the church? Why or why not? What is the primary task of the leaders Paul mentions?