

Week 3: Jesus the Servant King

Theme: The Nature of Jesus' Mission

Key Scripture: Mark 10:35–45; Philippians 2:1–11

Focus: Jesus redefines power and greatness

Teaching: Jesus came not as a conquering king, but as a servant. His humility leads directly to the cross.

Mark 10:42–45 and Philippians 2:5–11 reveal a radical redefinition of power and greatness in the kingdom of God. Where the world values status, control, and recognition, Jesus points to service, humility, and self-giving love.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus teaches that true greatness is found not in being served, but in serving. He presents His own life as the ultimate example, declaring that He came to give Himself "as a ransom for many." Leadership in God's kingdom flows from love and sacrifice, not authority or dominance.

Philippians 2 takes us even deeper, showing the heart behind Jesus' actions. Though fully God, Christ willingly laid aside His rights, taking the form of a servant and becoming obedient to death on a cross. His humility was not weakness—it was purposeful obedience that led to exaltation by God.

Together, these passages call us to adopt the mindset of Christ. They challenge our natural desire for recognition and invite us into a life shaped by humility, trust, and sacrificial service. In following Jesus, we discover that true glory is found on the path of self-giving love.

Discussion Questions:

- How is Jesus' idea of leadership different from the world's?
- Where do we struggle to serve others?
- How does humility prepare us for Easter?

Scripture Engagement Questions:

1. How does Jesus redefine power and leadership in these passages?
2. Why is humility so central to Jesus' mission?
3. What makes serving others difficult in everyday life?
4. How does Jesus' example challenge cultural definitions of success?
5. In what ways does pride interfere with our relationship with God?
6. Where might God be inviting you to practice servant leadership?
7. How does Jesus' obedience encourage you to trust God more fully?

Reflection/Prayer: Pray for a heart willing to serve, even when it costs something.