

MARK

“Who is the Greatest?”

MARK 9:33-37

Eric M. Hine Millersville Bible Church Oct. 18, 2026

They [the disciples] had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”
Mark 9:34b-35

TO MEET GOD’S STANDARD OF GREATNESS, ONE MUST...

1. **R**_____ the problem (vv. 33-34).

- ◆ Personal _____
- ◆ Self-_____
- ◆ Self-seeking _____

Leads to a _____ of _____ towards others.

2. **E**_____ Jesus’ _____ of greatness (v. 35).

- ◆ Greatness is achieved through _____.
“Humble service is putting the needs of others before your own for the glory of God” (cf. Philippians 2:3-4).

QUESTION: Won’t people just take advantage of me if I follow this path of servanthood?

- ◆ SUMMARY PRINCIPLE: As Christ’s ambassador, I strive to serve everyone with _____, love everyone with _____, trust with _____.

_____, and say “yes” or “no” according to what is faithful to God rather than what is necessary to gain people’s _____.

3. **D**_____ greatness through _____, especially towards the _____ (vv. 36-37).

QUESTION: Do you recognize yourself as a _____ (Matthew 18:3-5)?

_____, _____, _____

- ◆ Greatness requires _____ recognition of my own _____ and _____.

★ TWO WARNING SIGNS:

1. Believing there are _____ you.
2. Starting a sentence with _____

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- ◆ In what ways have my thoughts of greatness been impacted by the world?
- ◆ What fears do I need to turn over to the Lord, preventing me from serving faithfully as I should?
- ◆ What practical things can I do this week to demonstrate I am committed to seeking greatness through service?

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TO MEET GOD’S STANDARD OF GREATNESS, ONE MUST...

1. **Recognize** _____ the problem (vv. 33-34).

- ◆ Personal **recognition** _____
- ◆ Self- **exaltation** _____
- ◆ Self-seeking **ambition** _____

Leads to a **hardness** _____ of **heart** _____ towards others.

2. **Embrace** _____ Jesus’ **definition** _____ of greatness (v. 35).

- ◆ Greatness is achieved through **humble service** _____.
- “Humble service is putting the needs of others before your own for the glory of God” (cf. Philippians 2:3-4).

QUESTION: Won’t people just take advantage of me if I follow this path of servanthood?

- ◆ SUMMARY PRINCIPLE: As Christ’s ambassador, I strive to serve everyone with **humility** _____, love everyone with **compassion** _____, trust with

_____ **discernment** _____, and say “yes” or “no” according to what is faithful to God rather than what is necessary to gain people’s **approval** _____.

3. **Demonstrate** _____ greatness through **action** _____, especially towards the **lowly** _____ (vv. 36-37).

QUESTION: Do you recognize yourself as a **“little child”** _____ (Matthew 18:3-5)?

_____ **Dependent** _____, **Undeserving** _____, **Helpless** _____

- ◆ Greatness requires **humble** _____ recognition of my own **inability** _____ and **lowliness** _____.

★ TWO WARNING SIGNS:

1. Believing there are **tasks** _____ **beneath** _____ you.
2. Starting a sentence with **“I deserve...”** _____

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- ◆ In what ways have my thoughts of greatness been impacted by the world?
- ◆ What fears do I need to turn over to the Lord, preventing me from serving faithfully as I should?
- ◆ What practical things can I do this week to demonstrate I am committed to seeking greatness through service?