

Whatever I Want

Matthew 20:17-28

Okay, here we go! This study could also be called “Slave to All”, which really brings into perspective the two opposite sides of the coin. What I want and What you want.

In this journey the disciples are beginning to get the idea, maybe not the reality, but the idea that Jesus will be resurrected and then He would be in power. The Jewish people had ample prophecy concerning the coming king – Messiah. These disciples have accepted by faith --- that this Jesus is He.

Matthew 20:17-28 & Mark 10:35

It may seem like we are reading the same thing over and over. It may seem like the study keeps coming back to the same subject and it does. In *Matthew 20:17-19* Jesus says for the 6th time He will be killed. He becomes more specific. He says He will suffer. How are James and John going to respond?

Mark 10:35

“We want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

- 1) How do you ask Jesus to do things for you or others?

Again, I know some will say, I don't. But in truth who doesn't ask for

- Peace in trying situations
- Favor in relationships
- Advancement --- when earned, or not
- Healing of others
- Financial security
- Safety of children

It is easy to pick on these guys, as I often say.

- 2) Where would you like God to show you favor?

To say we don't ... maybe you don't want good health or financial security. Maybe you don't want understanding of others. Maybe you don't want safety in travel or in a pandemic....

Sometimes our requests come at other's expense. These guys wanted favor.

In ***Matthew 20:20-21***, someone else is asking..... none the less....

Matthew 20:24

- 3) *Briefly*, why were the other disciples upset?

Matthew 20:25-28

In order to be first, someone else must come after you. There is a great desire to have power in this world. That is not hard to see.

- First will be last
- Die to live and ... now...
- Slave to all

4) Whose slave are you today?

This is a tricky question. The very idea of being a slave to someone brings weird feelings and connotations.

Last week we talked about how money and things can keep us from serving. This week it is ego.

- Forgiving
- Accepting one's character
- Not getting my way

Matthew 20:23 '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;'

5) How do you drink from His cup?

Philippians 3:7-16

We must lose worldly ideas, pride, and ego, in order to be a slave to others... not forgetting my desires and my personal goals.

Whatever I ask... keeps me from serving. If I am not being a servant, it is often because it does not agree with my goals.

6) (Personal question) Why aren't you a slave today?

Jesus came to serve and give His life. Where can you lay down your life better? Yes, these messages, studies, are very similar. Because we are following the pattern the Holy Spirit laid down in the Gospels.....

Let's pray.