

GREATNESS IS SERVING

Matthew 20:26-28

A servant – one who works for or subject to another; Gk. Doulos (an adjective signifying “in bondage”)

I. INTRODUCTION

Too often situations happen in our churches and in our lives, we play religious games expecting God to give us something: wanting special favor, worshipping God, praising, God singing in the choir etc. True worship however adores and praises God for who he is and for what he has done and is doing in our lives.

II. DEFINITIONS

1. Greatness – Large, Big, Preeminent

A degree further removed in relationship, as great grand father, father of a grand father or grand mother, uncle of a parent; (great uncle).

2. Serving – Service, Serve, Servant

- a. Serve – Work under another, carryout duties
- b. Servant – One who serves (ministers) to others
- c. Slave – A captive, A person without freedom or personal rights

III. TEXT (Matt. 20:26-28)

(vs. 24, 25, and 26) The other disciples were upset with James and John for trying to grab the top position (leadership) they all wanted to be the greatest. (Matt. 18:1) But Jesus taught them that the greatest person in God’s Kingdom is the Servant (one who serves) of all. Authority is given not for self importance, ambition or respect, but to be a useful minister servant to God and His creation. **Note: Matt. 18:1, all the disciples wanted to be the greatest.**

(vs. 27) Jesus describes leadership from a new prospective, instead of using people, we are to serve them. Jesus’ mission was to serve others

and give His life away as a ransom (price paid to be released from captivity) for many. A real leader has a servant's heart.

(vs. 28) A ransom was the price paid to release a slave (30 pieces of silver). See Judas in Matt: 26:15, 16; (a captive, a person without freedom or personal rights) from bondage. Here Jesus tells his disciples why he must die. To redeem (to buy back, repurchase, to rescue, often from win with a ransom) all people from the bondage of sin and death. Jesus reveals that only His death could save them.

IV. CONCLUSION

Now people of God, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God and to walk, live and to work in His ways and to love Him; to serve the Lord with all your heart with all your spirit soul and body, (Deut. 10:12). Amen.

(vs. 13) Observe His commands:

Note: Are you frustrated and burned out from trying hard to please God? Concentrate on His real requirements and find Peace, Respect, Follow Love, Serve and obey (2 Cor. 6:1); we then as workers together with Him.