

True Greatness
Matthew 20:20-28

Main Point:

True greatness is found in humility and service, not in power and status; therefore, be great by humbly serving others, just as Jesus served you.

1. We're all tempted to seek greatness in power and status.
2. True greatness is actually found in humility and service.
3. True greatness is exemplified for us by Jesus Himself.
4. Be great by humbly serving others, just as Jesus served you.

Mark Ross “[The other disciples] are indignant because they too aspire to these high places, and they are resentful of the fact that the brothers have been able to approach Jesus for this honor first ...”

Matthew 20:25 ²⁵ But Jesus called them *unto him*, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. (KJV)

R.C. Sproul “The true follower of Christ does not grab for glory; he humbles himself as a servant.”

Daniel 7:13-14 ¹³ "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, *One* like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom *the one* Which shall not be destroyed. (NKJV)

J.C. Ryle “True greatness consists, not in receiving, but in giving, – not in selfish absorption of good things, but in embarking good to others, – not in being served, but in serving, – not in sitting still, and being ministered to, but in going about and ministering to others.”

Philippians 2:3-8 ³ *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross. (NKJV)