

Bible Study Series

**“I Can Be More”**

Mark 10:35-45

I. You Can't be More Being Self-Centered.

A. v. 35-37 **The Request**

1. James and John approach Jesus asking that they be allowed to sit with Him in the highest positions of His coming kingdom.
2. They were literally asking for **three things**;

- ***First***, They wanted \_\_\_\_\_
- ***Second***, They wanted \_\_\_\_\_
- ***Third***, They also wanted \_\_\_\_\_

3. **There are several reasons why they were bold enough to make such a request;**

- o ***First***, they based their request on their \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus;
  1. James and John were called the Sons of Thunder because of their zeal for the **Word** and God;
  2. So Their appeal was based on \_\_\_\_\_!
- o ***Second***, they were merely claiming the \_\_\_\_\_ they had been made.
  1. These men had been promised if they followed Jesus, thrones, power, and position, in the kingdom and they were making a claim on that promise.
  2. What bothers me about their **request** is the \_\_\_\_\_ of it;
  3. Jesus is about to die for the sins of the world and they are playing “*who’s on first?*” It is a cold-hearted, self-centered, unsympathetic request.
  4. All they could see was the glory of the crown but they forgot Jesus’ declaration to every disciple that would declare allegiance to him:

B. v. 38-39a \_\_\_\_\_

1. James and John confidently affirm, “*We are able*” (10:39a).

2. This response consists of one word in the Greek: *dunametha* = “*We are \_\_\_\_\_*!”;
3. As a result, these two brothers exhibit a self-confidence and self-reliance in themselves which is presumptuous at best.
4. Yet, we must keep in mind Paul’s warnings, (**Rom 12:3**) “*Do not think of yourselves more highly than you ought*” ....
5. And (**1 Cor 10:12**)“ *Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall*”

## II. You Can’t Be More Without Embracing A Somber Reality.

### A. Jesus responds by telling them that they have no idea what they are asking for;

1. When Jesus uses the word “\_\_\_\_\_” He is talking about “a life experience”;
2. When He uses the word “\_\_\_\_\_” He is referring to being “submerged or immersed” in that experience;
3. Their response reveals a complete lack of understanding concerning what Jesus is about to suffer and of the \_\_\_\_\_ He was sent to carry;
4. **Luke 9:23**, Jesus says, “\_\_\_\_\_.”;

### B. v. 41 \_\_\_\_\_

1. When the rest of the disciples heard about what John and James were up to, they became angry;
2. Whatever the reason, they are Upset!
3. Their reaction to what James and John did is no better than the request James and John made;
4. Let me just remind you that God cannot \_\_\_\_\_ in that kind of environment!

### C. Jesus takes their anger as teachable moment about Glory! (v42)

1. He lets them, know that “\_\_\_\_\_” is the way of the world.
2. You can even find this attitude in the church;
3. In this world’s economy, the higher up you get, the more you are served.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ to the disciples is the same to you and me.

## III. You Can’t be More Unless You Embrace The Expectations of The Savior.

### A. Jesus makes a distinction between“ *servant*” and“ *slave*.” V.43-44 “

1. The word “\_\_\_\_\_” (diakonos) originally meant to heap dust because a good servant moved so fast that dust flew around him.
2. The “\_\_\_\_\_” (doulos), however, was one who did not have the right to refuse;

### B. The lesson of the text concludes in verse 45!

1. Jesus offers himself as the best example of what being a servant leader looks like.

2. According to Howell, “the background to the designation “\_\_\_\_\_” comes primarily from **Daniel 7:9-14** . . . [in which] ‘*One like a son of man ’approaches the throne and is given authority, glory, and sovereign power.*’”;
3. Jesus was declaring that\_\_\_\_\_ is an act of self-sacrifice for others, and distinguishes the act as putting others first; **That’s what was in the Cup of Jesus.**