

THE FIRST WILL BE LAST

Matthew 20.20-34

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Matthew 20.20-28

Here, the mother of James and John ask a favor of Jesus. Clearly not understanding how the Lord's "economy" works, she wants her sons to be exalted in the Kingdom. Jesus foretells that they would be at His left and right hand, but in a way that they weren't looking for. Both of them, like their Lord, would suffer and die for the sake of the Kingdom.

JESUS IS OUR EXAMPLE

Here we get an insight from Jesus as to the nature of His relationship with the Father. It is important for us to see this if we are to grow in our relationship with Him as well as with others.

- God the Father and Son (and Spirit for that matter) are One, and are completely equal in their essence, nature, power, and being.
- They are different, however, in their roles, and they are not the same Person (e.g., the Father is not the Son, the Son is not the Spirit, etc.).
- Though totally equal in nature, the Son gladly submits to the Father, and even in another sense of the word, "submits" Himself to us as a servant.

Romans 5.8

Jesus models servant leadership, humbling Himself to others who are truly lower than Him, all throughout His ministry. Even here after this conversation, He turns to serve those who are blind and needy.

HOW CAN WE FOLLOW?

We want to become like Jesus in every way, following His example, even to "drink the cup" as James and John did. How do we come to this point? We seek to behold and enjoy and be mesmerized by the beauty of our Servant King, Jesus. When we are humbled by His service to us, it melts our hearts for others.

Christianity is the only major religion where its central event is the humiliation of its own God.

-Bruce Shelley



NOTES:

Follow along with our daily prayer requests by downloading the **PrayerMate App**, available on both **iOS** and **Android** phones. Go to our website for detailed instructions on how to subscribe to the app to be praying with us daily, as well as reading through our **2 Year Bible Reading Plan**.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the green **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our teammates in a **Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll forge friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. Please visit lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart for the ministry and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **6th - 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to the junior high room with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service.

Our **High School students** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at hbarnes5@yahoo.com.

VISION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

We want to see God's glory known among the nations, to the least, last, and lost.

MISSION: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

We need to make disciples who make disciples locally and globally, who are saved, equipped, and sent by the Gospel.

STRATEGY: HOW WILL WE DO IT?

By teaching people how to be rooted in the Gospel of God's glory through the Word of God, Prayer, and Gospel Community.

CONTACT US:

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Twitter: @YourLifeMission
[YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV)

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Matthew 20:20-34**. What stood out to you the most in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

What do you think was the heart of the mother and her two sons discussed in **Matthew 20:20-23**? In other words, what were they seeking? What did they seem to think they deserved? _____

What do you think Christ meant when he said, "[T]o sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant . . ."? Does this passage call into question Christ's authority? What does it tell us about Christ's relationship with His Father? See **Matthew 26:39** and **42**, and **Philippians 2:5-8**. _____

Re-read **Matthew 20:25-28**. Explain in your own words what you think Jesus is telling His disciples? Is there really something inherently wrong about ambition? Doesn't Paul tell us to run so as to win the race in **1 Corinthians 9:24**? How do we reconcile these passages? _____

Read **Psalms 100:2**, **Proverbs 3:34**, **John 13:3-16**, and **James 2:1-5**. How does our current culture react to the suggestion that we humble ourselves and serve others? What do you think our world's current reaction would be to a God who washes the feet of His followers? What is Christ showing us through His washing of His disciples' feet, and how does this relate to what He is teaching in **Matthew 20:20-28**? _____

We see Jesus healing two blind men in **Matthew 20:29-34**. How does that relate to what we just saw him teach in verses **20-28**? What did the men do after Jesus healed them? What is Christ's ultimate goal in his acts of worldly grace, such as healing? _____

Christ's death on the cross is the ultimate demonstration of His grace, mercy, love and servanthood toward us, and ultimately, toward His Father. See **John 15:13** and **Romans 5:7-10**. What is your reaction when you reflect on the fact that Christ, the perfect Son of God, took your guilt on Himself on the cross when you were undeserving of and powerless to attain this gift? _____

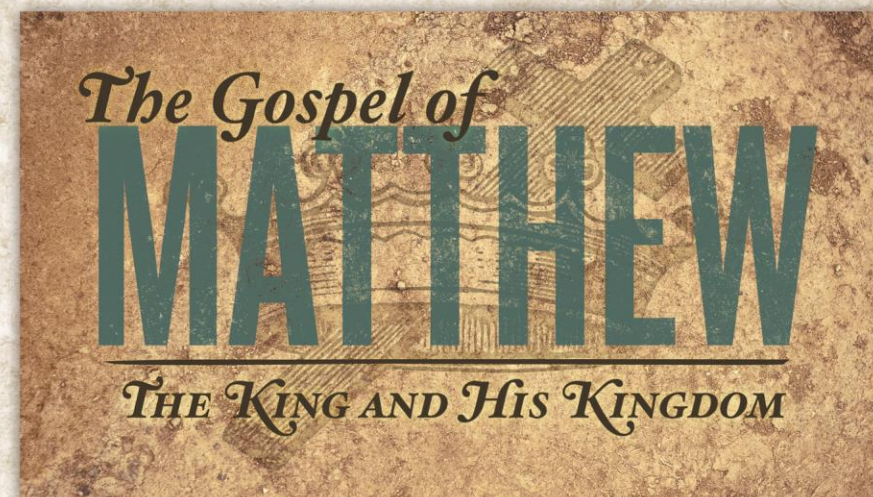
Spend some time in prayer reflecting on the fact that Christ has already done all for you, and what your reaction to that truth should be. Using the P.R.A.Y. model, reflect on the truth that you were once dead in your sin, but it was only through Christ's great grace, mercy, and love that you have found his favor, and seek earnestly his will for your life.



LIFE MISSION
C H U R C H

Pastor Jobey McGinty
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Making Disciples Who Make Disciples Locally and Globally,
Who are Saved, Equipped, and Sent by the Gospel.



THE FIRST WILL BE THE LAST

Matthew 20.20 - 34 // October 11, 2015

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

