



Oct. 21, 2018 Mark 10: 35-45 & Is. 53: 10-11

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ENTERING THE SCENE:

We live in troubled times. Times where we want to fix our problems by using force. The force of our wealth, military, privileged position gained by the accident of birth. All these things were operative in Jesus' day and the disciples, like we, are unable to rise above using force to find our real source of power. That is what Jesus taught when he said: "You know that those who are regarded as **rulers** of the **Gentiles lord it over** them, and their high **officials** exercise **authority** over them. 43 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become **great** among you must be your **servant**, 44 and whoever wants to be **first** must be **slave** of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be **served**, but to **serve**, and to **give his life** as a **ransom** for many."

It will take the Pentecost experience before this will finally "click in" and Jesus knows this, but he also knows with the Spirit's help they and we will get there.

Mark 10:35-45

35 Then **James** and **John**, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "**Teacher**," they said, "we want you to **do for us** whatever we ask." 36 What do you

want me to **do for you**?" he asked. 37 They replied, "Let one of us sit at your **right** and the other at your **left** in your **glory**." 38 You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you **drink** the **cup** I **drink** or be **baptized** with the **baptism** I am **baptized** with?" 39 We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will **drink** the **cup** I **drink** and be **baptized** with the **baptism** I am **baptized** with, 40 but to sit at my **right** or **left** is not for me to **grant**. These **places** belong to those for whom they have been **prepared**." 41 When the **ten** heard about this, they became **indignant** with **James** and **John**. 42 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as **rulers** of the **Gentiles lord it over** them, and their high **officials** exercise **authority** over them. 43 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become **great** among you must be your **servant**, 44 and whoever wants to be **first** must be **slave** of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be **served**, but to **serve**, and to **give his life** as a **ransom** for many."

DISCUSSION QUESTION: If Jesus were to ask me what I would want him to do for me, what would be my answer?

PRAYER: Teacher Jesus, you are so patient with me as I like those disciples am stumbling along wanting to do the right thing, but at times using all the failed methods of the past. You invite me to consider a new method, which is of serving others real needs, not using their need to serve my need to be needed. Help me to get in touch with how cherished I have felt when someone did for me what was truly needed simply because they cared for me. Then I will glimpse what you are trying to teach. Amen.