



Introduction

What if this year was not just about becoming better, but about becoming greater? What would that kind of change look like? Jesus re-calibrates what greatness looks like and points us in that direction.

Discussion Questions

1. On a scale of 1-10, how was this past week? Was there a time where you had to lean on God's grace?
2. What is the most ambitious New Year's resolution that you've ever kept? What was particularly memorable about that experience?

Questions for Exploration

3. What would it look like for you to be a better *person* this year, as opposed to a person who was better *at* something? How would you measure it?
4. Read **Mark 10:42-45**. How does Jesus define greatness for his disciples? How does his definition make you feel?
5. Resolutions can make you *better*, but serving others will make you *greater*. Have you experienced that dynamic personally, or seen it with someone you knew well? What was that like?
6. Who in your life right now can you put first? Who can you serve? How can this group help you prioritize serving others?

Questions for Examination

3. Read **Mark 10:33-45**. Why do you think the disciples (not just James and John, but the other ten as well) so easily missed Jesus' point as they headed to Jerusalem?
4. How did Jesus define greatness for his disciples? How did his definition shape his disciples' future?
5. This is neither the first nor the last time this idea of "first" and "last" shows up in the New Testament. Read **Philippians 2:1-11**. How should Jesus' definition of greatness shape our relationships?
6. What prevents you from having the same mindset as Jesus when it comes to serving others? How can this group help you overcome that obstacle?

Moving Forward

In God's economy, last place is the greatest place, serving is greater than being served, and living for others is living like Jesus. That sets a high standard, but one we can *all* pursue. Every single one of us can be assured of greatness, because we can all put others first.

Focus

"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all."

Mark 10:43-44