

THE LIFE OF
JESUS

Message 18
Greatness

Perry Duggar
May 14, 2017

► **Outline**

Today's Message based on *The Life of Jesus* – Reading 103

...*"If anyone wants to be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."*

Mark 9:35 (HCSB)

A. Introduction (Mark 9:33-34)

B. True Greatness is...

1. Characterized by _____.

(Mark 9:35-40; Luke 9:48b; Matthew 18:3.
C/R: Ephesians 4:2; Philippians 1:15-18; 2:3;
James 4:6, 10)

2. Concerned for _____.

(Mark 9:41-42; Matthew 18:14. C/R: Genesis 12:3; John
13:20; Romans 14; 1 Corinthians 8; Philippians 2:4)

3. Committed to _____.

(Mark 9:43-50. C/R: Leviticus 2:13; Mark 7:20-23; Romans
13:12-14; Titus 2:12)

Answers: 1. humility 2. others 3. righteousness

Resource Information: Outline and onscreen verses are from HCSB version (Holman Christian Standard Bible) of *The Holy Bible*. Our resource book for this series is *The Life of Jesus, A Simplified Harmony of the Gospels*, which is available in the Bookstore. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to help you pursue a relationship with Jesus. Be on the lookout for what God wants to say to you personally.

Find a Small Group at brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups.
Let's grow in real life together!

Conversation Starter

What kinds of people are considered important in Western culture, and why?

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [Mark 9:33-37](#) (The beginning of Reading #103 in *The Life of Jesus*).

1. What's preoccupying the minds of the disciples causing them to miss the heart and mission of Jesus?
2. According to this passage, who is *greatest* in God's eyes?
3. How does Jesus' attitude toward children illustrate His point about *greatness in the kingdom of heaven*?
4. Describe a time when someone made you feel valuable. How did that help you grow as a person?
5. Describe humility and give some examples.
6. What does it cost to live humbly?
7. Name several rewards of living humbly.
8. Where else in the Bible do we learn about humility and serving others?

Read [Mark 9:38-50](#) (continuing Reading #103 in *The Life of Jesus*).

9. What misunderstanding did the disciples have in [vs. 38](#)? What is the point of Jesus' response in [vs. 39-40](#)?
10. How would you summarize the truth of [Mark 9:38-40](#)?
11. Many agree that Jesus' commands in [vs. 42-48](#) are not to be taken literally. What do these strong words say about what God values most?
12. What does it mean to *have salt among yourselves* ([vs. 50](#))? How could you be *salty* in a way that honors Jesus this week?
13. Consider several ways you could finish this statement:
Living as part of a redemptive community means _____.

Soul Training

This week, do something meaningful for someone you might usually disregard, without letting him/her know it was you. Use this act of service to strengthen your belief in the dignity of all.

Memory Verse

"I assure you," He said, "unless you are converted and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child — this one is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

[Matthew 18:3-4 \(HCSB\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day	<i>The Life of Jesus</i> Reading #	or	Bible Reference
May 15	101-102		Matthew 17:22-27 ; Mark 9:30-32 ; Luke 9:43-45
May 16	103		Matthew 18:1-11 ; Mark 9:33-50 ; Luke 9:46-50
May 17	104		Matthew 18:15-22
May 18	105		Luke 9:51-56
May 19	106		Matthew 18:23-35

Prepare for Next Sunday

On Sunday, May 21, we'll consider Jesus as *The Light of the World*.
([John 8:12-59](#) – Reading #111 in *The Life of Jesus*).



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