

# Summary

Pastor James Savage concludes the Greatness series by examining Mark 10:32-45, where Jesus again predicts his death and the disciples again argue about greatness. Using a personal camping story about forgetting essential items, Pastor James explores how we often forget what's most important to us. He emphasizes that Mark recorded this similar story twice because the disciples (and we) are quick to forget Jesus's teachings. The sermon focuses on remembering the Gospel - that Jesus came not to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many. Pastor James explains the Gospel message: humanity is captive to sin, but Jesus unified mercy and justice by dying on the cross to pay the price for our freedom. He encourages those who have drifted from their faith to slow down, tell someone, and let Jesus disrupt their rhythms to return to Him.

## Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with grateful hearts, thankful for Your love and grace. As we gather together in this small group, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to be present with one another and receptive to Your Spirit. We pray that You would speak to each person here in the way they need to hear from You. Remove any distractions or barriers that might keep us from receiving what You have for us. We trust You to guide our conversation and draw us closer to You and to each other. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## Ice Breaker

What's something important you've forgotten recently that caused a minor (or major) inconvenience?

## Key Verses

1. Mark 10:43-44
2. Mark 10:45
3. Romans 5:8
4. Romans 10:9-10
5. James 5:16

## Questions

1. Why do you think the disciples repeated the same mistake of arguing about greatness so soon after Jesus had already taught them about it?
2. Pastor James said 'that which is most important to us is often the things that we are quickest to forget.' What are some important spiritual truths you've found yourself forgetting over time?
3. How does Jesus's statement that He 'came not to be served but to serve' challenge our culture's definition of greatness and success?

4. What does it mean that Jesus gave His life 'as a ransom for many'? How does this impact your understanding of the Gospel?
5. Pastor James mentioned three steps for when we've drifted: slow down, tell somebody, and 'go to Walmart' (take action). Which of these is most challenging for you and why?
6. How can we create rhythms in our lives that help us remember the Gospel and not drift away from our faith?
7. What are some practical ways we can serve others in our daily lives, following Jesus's example of greatness through service?
8. How does remembering what Jesus has done for us motivate us to serve others rather than seek to be served?

## Life Application

This week, identify one area where you've drifted from your faith or forgotten an important spiritual truth. Take one concrete action to 'remember' - whether that's returning to a spiritual discipline you've neglected, reaching out to someone for prayer or accountability, or finding a new way to serve others. Write down what you choose to do and share it with someone who can encourage you in taking that step.

## Key Takeaways

1. We are quick to forget what's most important, including the Gospel message and Jesus's teachings about greatness through service
2. True greatness in God's kingdom is defined by serving others, not by seeking position or recognition
3. Jesus came to serve and give His life as a ransom, unifying God's mercy and justice to rescue us from sin
4. When we drift from our faith, we need to slow down, tell someone, and take action to return to Jesus
5. The Gospel is not fair - it's love, offering forgiveness and freedom to all who believe and confess Jesus as Lord

## Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the reminder today that You came not to be served but to serve, and to give Your life as a ransom for us. Help us to never forget the incredible love You showed us on the cross. When we drift or forget, bring us back to this truth. Give us hearts that desire to serve others as You served us. Help us to find our greatness not in what we can achieve for ourselves, but in how we can love and serve those around us. Thank You that Your Gospel is not about fairness but about Your amazing love for us. May we live each day remembering what You've done and sharing that hope with others. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.