

CROSS POINT DISCUSSION GUIDE

Mark 12:35–44 — “Magnify”

Summary

This message continues our journey through the Gospel of Mark during the Awaken season, reminding us that a great life is one that magnifies Jesus. Teaching from the new Hendersonville campus, the message highlights how revival happens one person at a time through prayer, invitation, and transformation. Using the imagery of a telescope, we learn that magnifying God doesn't make Him bigger — it brings His greatness into clearer view through our lives.

In Mark 12:35–44, Jesus gives three snapshots that reveal what it looks like to magnify Him: seeing Him rightly as King, decreasing our ego so He can increase, and living lives of sacrificial generosity. What we focus on is what we magnify — and when our focus is Jesus, others catch a glimpse of God through us.

Intro Prayer

Father, thank You for bringing us together today. As we reflect on Your Word, help us see You more clearly and live in a way that brings Your greatness into view. Open our hearts to what You want to teach us, and help us grow in humility, courage, and generosity. Shape our focus so that our lives magnify Jesus. Holy Spirit, guide our conversation and draw us closer to You and to one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

Share about someone in your life who has deeply impacted you through the way they loved, served, or sacrificed for others. What stood out about their life?

Key Verses

1. Mark 12:35–37 — Seeing Jesus rightly as Lord
 2. Mark 12:38–40 — A warning against pride and self-focus
 3. Mark 12:41–44 — The widow’s sacrificial offering
 4. Psalm 34:3 — “Magnify the Lord with me”
 5. Matthew 6:21 — “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”
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Questions

1. The message said, “What we are focused on is what we magnify.” What tends to capture most of your attention right now, and how is it shaping your perspective?
 2. Jesus challenged people to have a higher view of the Messiah. What are some ways our culture can lower our view of Jesus or shift our hope toward temporary things?
 3. The scribes were focused on status and recognition. Where do you see the temptation toward self-focus or comparison show up in everyday life?
 4. The phrase “glance at the temporary, gaze at Jesus” was used in the message. What might that look like practically in your daily rhythms?
 5. Jesus highlighted the widow’s offering, not because of the amount, but because of the sacrifice. How does this reshape how we think about generosity or obedience?
 6. The story of Steve reminds us that revival happens one person at a time. Who are the 8–15 people God may be prompting you to pray for during Awaken?
 7. How does prayer begin to change our hearts toward people — even those we may struggle with?
 8. If your life were a telescope helping others see Jesus, what areas of your life might need realignment so He becomes clearer?
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Life Application

This week, take one intentional step to “magnify” Jesus with your life:

Write down the names of the people you’re praying for during Awaken and commit to praying for them daily.

Identify one area where your focus has drifted toward worry, pride, or distraction, and replace it with a spiritual practice such as prayer, Scripture, or gratitude.

Choose one act of sacrificial generosity — whether time, encouragement, service, or financial giving — that points others toward God rather than yourself.

Key Takeaways

1. A great life magnifies Jesus by bringing His greatness into view for others.
 2. What we focus on shapes what our lives magnify.
 3. Seeing Jesus rightly changes how we live, hope, and lead.
 4. Humility creates space for Christ to increase while our ego decreases.
 5. Sacrificial generosity reveals what truly holds our hearts.
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Ending Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for reminding us that our lives can magnify You. Help us fix our eyes on Jesus above everything else competing for our attention. Teach us humility so that You would increase in us. Grow our faith to live generously and sacrificially, trusting that You see every hidden act of obedience. As we continue through Awaken, use our prayers, our invitations, and our lives to bring renewal in the church, revival in the city, and awakening across Middle Tennessee. In Jesus’ name, Amen.