



# LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Rethink*  
Message: *Rethinking*  
*Greatness*

Scripture: *Mark 9*

Date: February 23 & 24, 2019

—[ LET'S START ]—

Think about some of the arguments that you had when you were a child. What did you argue about?

In this week's passage, the disciples argued about who was the greatest. Their society equated height with greatness. How does our society measure greatness?

—[ LET'S TALK ]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened last week for which you are thankful? What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? As a group, take some time to pray. Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work, and pray about the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.
2. Read Mark 9:14-29. The disciples went from the mountaintop of the Transfiguration to the valley of despair. What does this passage teach us about Jesus? What does it teach us about the disciples? What do we learn about prayer?
3. Are there some ways that you have seen God work in your life through the power of prayer? Take a few minutes to talk about ways that you have seen God work through prayer.
4. Read Mark 9:30-37. What does this passage teach us about Jesus? What does it teach us about the disciples?
5. Why do you suppose it was so important to Jesus that He teach the disciples? What does Jesus' model for ministry teach us about discipleship? How intentional would you say that we as a group are about making disciples like Jesus did?
6. Pastor Dale said, "It's really hard to hear Jesus when you're self-absorbed. No wonder the Father said on the mountain, '**This is my beloved Son, listen to Him!**' How about you? Do you sometimes have a hard time hearing Jesus?" What makes it difficult for us to hear Jesus?
7. Towards the end of his message Pastor Dale said, "What the disciples were doing is what we end up doing, measuring in the wrong direction. True greatness is not about how far your star has risen, but how low you are prepared to go to demonstrate God's love to others." How have you seen this truth demonstrated in your life?

—[ LET'S ACT ]—

Our challenge this week is to commit to the following statement:

*By God's help I aim to become the greatest by becoming the least. I will do this by putting others first no matter what it costs me.*

Let's pray that God would help us to be a group that helps others see the hope that can only be found in living for Jesus Christ.

As a group, brainstorm how you might together, over the course of the next month, practically serve the needs of others in a way that costs you something.

—[ SERMON REVIEW ]—

- Jesus took His disciples up to the Mount of Transfiguration. They came down into a valley of despair.
- Jesus emphasized the power of prayer with His disciples. There are times when the unseen enemy throws everything he can at you. That's when you better be on your knees calling on God to bolster and strengthen you.
- It is hard to listen to God when you have preconceived ideas about how you think He's supposed to act.
- Jesus said if you want to be tall you've got to get small! If you want to be great become the least!
- What really is greatness? The idea is based on a Greek word which literally means "more." From our human way of thinking, a person can be designated great only if they excel in some way more than others. So to be humanly great means being more than someone else.
- True greatness is not about how far your star has risen, but how low you are prepared to go to demonstrate God's love to others.
- By God's help I aim to become the greatest by becoming the least. I will do this by putting others first no matter what it costs me.

—[ NOTES ]—

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