

“FOLLOWING JESUS: LEADING GREAT”

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March 24th, 2019

1. JESUS TURNED THE “TOP DOWN” SYSTEM OF THE WORLD “UPSIDE DOWN” WITH THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

A. THE MOST DISRUPTIVE MIRACLE JESUS PERFORMED WAS RAISING LAZARUS. (John 11:38-44)

B. JESUS’ MISSION WAS BRINGING FEAR TO THE LEADERS OF THE TEMPLE.

Many of the Jews...believed in Him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let Him go on like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” So from that day on they plotted to take His life. (John 11:45-48; 53)

C. AS JESUS’ MOMENTUM BUILDS, SO DOES THE PLOT AGAINST HIM.

So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. (John 12:10-11)

2. JESUS REVEALS HIS PURPOSE (AGAIN) AND HIS UPSIDE DOWN VALUE SYSTEM.

A. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise.”
(Mark 10:32c-34)

B. And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”
(Mark 10:35-37)

C. Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking...to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” (Mark 10:38a,40)

D. And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.” (Mark 10:41-42)

E. “But it shall **not be so among you**. But whoever would be great among you must be your **servant**, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.” (Mark 10:43-44)

MEMORY VERSE

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45)

3. JESUS IS THE KING WHO CAME TO REVERSE THE ORDER OF THINGS.

A. KING JESUS WASHED HIS DISCIPLES’ FEET. (John 13:4-9)

B. You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a **servant** is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.
(John 13:13-17)

C. THE CHURCH WAS AND IS TO BE:

1. APPALLING.

2. APPEALING.

3. **CHRIST-LIKE.**
4. **CONTAGIOUS.**

GOING DEEPER

1. Read Mark 9:30–36. Jesus redefines great leadership in Mark 9:35. Does his definition seem realistic and achievable in your world? Why or why not?
2. If Christians embraced Jesus' words in Mark 10:42–45, how might it change the church's reputation in the world?
3. Read Mark 10:42–43. Do you need to do a better job of serving someone you lead? If so, what would it look like to leverage your influence on that person's behalf?