

The greatest problem

Mark 9:30-41

Main Point

One of our greatest problems is found in our striving for greatness.

Q: Immediately following Jesus's teaching regarding the fact that he would be "handed over" to men to be crucified, Mark tells us the story about how the disciples argued about which one of them was the greatest. ***Why do you think Mark would include this story, which casts such a negative light on the disciples?***

Q: How does the world define greatness?

Q: Who is (or was) the greatest person in the world to you? What makes (made) them so?

Q: When we think about the greatest person in our lives we usually define greatness in similar ways that Jesus does-the person who has loved and served the most. Why is it then, that we find it so difficult to live this way (serving instead of being served)?

Q: The very idea of being "the greatest" involves being better than others-"I am the greatest." Where have you struggled the most with this in your life-wanting be greater than others? What would it look like to live this out in Jesus' definition of greatness?