

Reflection Questions: Luke 9:46-50

For the message, "True Greatness" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on March 17, 2020

These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages.

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: Luke 9:46-50

46 An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest. **47** But Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by his side...

[**Mark 9:33** And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" **34** But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.]

48 and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great."

49 John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us." **50** But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you."

1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.

- The disciples knew that humility is a prized virtue, and they are following Jesus who is the epitome of humility, and yet the "me monster" of pride surfaced so easily in them. Be honest now: How easily do you see the "me monster" of pride surface in your life? Can you think of a recent example?
- Why do you think we have difficulty seeing pride within us? And why is it often that pride in our lives more evident to others than it is to us?
- What is Jesus getting at by putting forth a child and asking the disciples to humble themselves and be willing to associate and receive them into their lives?

2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.

- In Phillipians 2, the Apostle Paul challenges us to adopt the mindset of Jesus who humbled himself even to the point of “being obedient to death.” And God exalted him. What do you think it would look like for a community of faith to adopt the mindset of humbling ourselves? How would we know that his happening among us?

3. Let’s think about how this text applies to our city.

- When you think of how those who are outside of the church and do not follow Jesus think of Christians, do you think they view the followers of Jesus as humble people or prideful? Flesh this out with an example or two.
- How do you think we can “adorn the gospel” by pursuing humility? In other words, how might others be drawn to consider Jesus by being exposed to humans who embody the virtue of Jesus-like humility?

CONCLUSION QUESTION

What is the one thing you want to take away from this study to remember or to make a change in your life?

PRAYER

What are some ways you can turn what you are learning into prayer? List them as bullet points....

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