

Pastor Dave Rohde

For Sunday, March 16th "Stirring a Servant Spirit"

Mark 10:35-45 – *NIV*

³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

³⁶ "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

³⁷ They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

³⁸ "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

³⁹ "We can," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."

⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Philippians 2:1-11 – *NIV*

¹ Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature[a] God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature[b] of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Lenten Discipline: Write a note or letter of encouragement and/or reconciliation to someone.

Takeaway: We can develop a generous spirit by humbling ourselves, lifting others up, and seeing the big picture of God's Kingdom.

Questions:

1. Share about a time someone has lifted you up by using their words.
2. Why do you think humility is often misunderstood or misconstrued to be weakness?
3. Reflect on Philippians 2:3-4. What does it look like to follow Paul's instructions today?
4. In Philippians 2:9-11, we see that Jesus' humility and sacrifice ultimately lead to his exaltation. What practices can we incorporate in our daily lives to remind ourselves of the "upside-down" nature of God's Kingdom?

Sermon:

<https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20250316.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/FgZ2HRYiUnk>