

How to be Great in the Kingdom, Part 2

John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 20:20-28.

B. The Bible has many great models of humility. John may have been the greatest because he was the humblest. (Matthew 11:11)

C. The greatest in the kingdom are the humblest. (Luke 5:8, Acts 20:8, Matthew 18:4)

II. The exhortation.

A. The disciples were not to gain power the same way that the world did. (John 18:36)

B. It is not wrong to seek reward. It is wrong to seek it for selfish reasons.

C. Glory is received through suffering.

D. To desire leadership and service is a good thing. (1 Timothy 3)

E. God is looking for people who are willing to serve. (1 Corinthians 4)

F. Let every day be a day of humility.

G. The gist of greatness is service.

H. Criticism and fatigue are threats to faithful service.

III. The example.

A. Jesus is the example.

B. We are to follow his pattern.

C. Jesus served--even to the point of giving his life. (Luke 22:20, John 15:14)

D. Jesus' death was more than an example--it was ransom. (1 Peter 2, Romans 8, 1 Corinthians 6, 1 Peter 1:18)

E. Christ became a ransom for all. Because of this God glorified him. (Philippians 2)

Application Questions:

1. Who is an example of humility in your life?

2. What challenges do we face in becoming humble?

3. How can one grow in humility? Explain.
