



FLIPPED:

JESUS TURNS CONVENTIONAL WISDOM UPSIDE DOWN

Mark 10:32-45

Week of May 7, 2023

Start at 9:45-9:55

Belong: Use 5-10 minutes as an opportunity to get to know one another. The questions below are written for people to open-up and to know the group members.

Take a **few minutes** to hear about your group members' week.

Choose two of the questions below:

- Ask about highs or lows that have happened since the last time you met.
- Or, Give a fun fact about yourself.
- Or, Would you rather always sing out of tune or never be able to keep up with the beat?
- **How has God revealed Himself to you this week?**

9:55-10:05

Believe: Use 5-10 minutes to read this week's assigned Scriptures then highlight each verse that helps you to understand the passage better. Include the book, chapter and verse(s).

Over the next several weeks, we will be spending time looking at the paradoxes of Jesus. A paradox is defined as: statements that on the surface run against conventional wisdom but then reveal a deeper truth. In these paradoxes, Jesus takes conventional wisdom and turns it on its head. For His church, these teachings help us to define the economy of the Kingdom of God as well as the essence of the ministry of Jesus. **The challenge for us is not to look inward for understanding, but to look outward at Jesus, to see Him, to learn from Him, to come to Him, and then to emulate what He teaches to us.**

Have a group member read **Mark 10:32-45** aloud - Paradox of to be great, be the least.

10:05-10:20

Build: Use about 15 minutes to engage the passage and wrestle with its meaning.

Mark 10:32-37, set-up a very interesting exchange between Jesus and the disciples. Jesus tells them that He is going to Jerusalem to be mocked and killed. James & John [nicknamed - Sons of Thunder] somehow see this as an opportunity to ask Jesus to do them a favor.

- What was the favor? Why do you think they would ask for such a thing?
- Does **Matthew 20:20-21** change your mind?

After hearing their request, Jesus confirms in **Mark 10:39** that James and John, "will drink, and with the baptism with which I [Jesus] am baptized."

- What was Jesus referring to? How is this different from what these two brothers were originally asking for?

Mark 10:45 is considered by some to be the theme verse of the Gospel of Mark. Carefully read and unpack every word of this verse. Why is it so significant?

10:20–10:35/40

Become: *Use about 15 minutes to apply what you have read. How can this help me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What is God saying to me?*

When James & John approached Jesus and asked Him their question, what was their core motivation? Why do you think they wanted to sit on each side of Jesus?

- Why did the other disciples get upset?
- Do these attitudes still exist in the church today?

In our Scripture today, Jesus taught His disciples that the way to greatness comes through humility and dependence on Him. This completely contradicts what culture teaches.

- Why do you think that culture finds this teaching odd?

How does servanthood go against human nature?

- How does servanthood compare with what advertisers/ culture wants us to think of ourselves?

How DO we put away culture's mindset and adopt the mindset of Jesus Christ?

- How is the "church" doing in adopting the mindset of Jesus Christ?
- How is FBC Portland doing in adopting the mindset of Jesus Christ?

Discuss this quote: "**God will try our faith before he satisfies our sight.**" – **William Bates**

10:35/ 10:40 – Class ends at 10:45

Begin: *Use the last 5–10 minutes for prayer. It's important that we not only hear and discuss God's Word but respond to it. (James 1:22)*

Do you see any of God's attributes in this week's passage that struck out to you?

What specifically will you do to apply what we have learned today?

At the end of the conversation, spend some time praying as a group. Here are some prompts:

- Spend some group time—sharing requests and praying specifically for them.
- Spend some time praying for FBC and that we would be encouraged and hopeful in how God is working in and through FBC Portland.

Additional Resources:

Blue Letter Bible: Mark 10: Check out the QR code to learn more.



Precept Austin: Mark 10: Check out the QR code to learn more.

