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2022 Southern Africa Regional Conference Study 02

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To serve, not to be served

▣ Mark 10:32-45

▣ Key Verse 10:45 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."

1. On their way up to Jerusalem why were the disciples astonished and afraid (32)? Comparing with 8:31 and 9:31, what new aspects of His suffering does Jesus introduce here (33-34)? Why does Jesus need to keep explaining His suffering, death and resurrection to the disciples again and again?

2. What did James and John ask Jesus, and why do you think they wanted to sit on each side (35-37)? What is James and John’s understanding of the events that are about to unfold in Jerusalem? In what ways do we also compete for power and authority?

3. What do “the cup” and “the baptism” refer to, and why do you think Jesus asked them if they could drink the cup He would drink (38)? What did Jesus answer them (39)? How did Jesus explain the impossibility of granting what they requested (40)?

4. Why do you suppose the ten reacted this way (41)? What does Jesus teach them about the difference between greatness in God’s kingdom and greatness in the world (42-44)? How had Jesus taught them the same thing before (9:35)? Why are humility and servanthood the marks of true greatness in leadership?

5. What is the purpose of Jesus' coming to this world (45)? How had Jesus been serving, and how did He explain the meaning of His upcoming death in Jerusalem (45b)? What does it mean to you that Jesus had come to serve, and in very practical terms, how can you become a servant of or to others?