

"TRUSTING FOR OUR FUTURE"

Mark 10:35-45

Mark 10:35-45 ³⁵Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." ³⁶And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" ³⁷They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared." ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. ⁴²But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. ⁴⁴And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

I. FAILING TO TRUST

A. Our text: The disciples are Jesus followers by God's choice/God's plan

1. **Luke 6:13** He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:

a. God chose for a purpose: *God has plans for your life!*

2. If God planned/chose – then we should trust Him to work His will in our lives

B. But James/John are like us: We struggle to trust God for our futures

1. **I need to determine my own future: V35** ...we want You to do for us whatever we ask.

a. I need this position/attention/placement in order to have a good future

1. In the church 2. In the future: I have to...pioneer/be a missionary/evangelist/leader...

2. **They viewed calling as being human in origin**

a. I need to get an edge with the man discipling me (they didn't fully grasp who Jesus was)

1. I need to impress him 2. Hang out with him 3. Schmoose him 4. Not be seen as stupid

b. I need to make sure he doesn't give something good to my fellow disciples

3. But these are marks of a lack of trust: *I can't trust God with my future/my destiny*

II. RESULTS OF MISTRUST

A. Failing to trust God with your future has negative consequences

1. **It causes you unnecessary stress:** *You stress out over every sign*

a. He said something good about a brother/they got attention/I said something foolish

2. **It causes relationship conflicts: v41** when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John.

a. **Mark 9:33-34** Jesus asked the disciples, "What were you arguing about on the road?" ³⁴But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. **My brothers are my competitors!**

1. I need to make sure I get more attention than they do 2. If I look better than they do – I win

3. **It causes you to miss what God is actually doing:** *Amazing context – revealing the cross!*

a. You can miss what God is saying...looking at/worrying about your brother

4. **It can cause you to work against what God's will:**

a. Peter: Not so, Lord – get behind me, Satan! You are working against God

1. Refuse to help others 2. Cause a bad spirit that affects salvation *concert drums stool war*

III. THE PREPARED PATH

A. Our text shows us 2 amazingly helpful truths

1. **Your future has been prepared: v40** to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared."

a. Prepared: Planned + provided for; Arrangements have already been made!

1. I have entered into places/positions that it was clear God prepared the way in advance

b. Trust God! He will bring it to pass – and no one can stop it!

2. **The path to your future is service: v43** whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant

a. Servant: One hire to do menial service/whatever needs doing b. Slave: One who does another's will – not what they want

1. **Find a need and meet it:** The simple question is – *what needs doing?*

2. **Do things for the benefit of others:** *Help your brother/say good things about your brother*

3. **Do things without being concerned with recognition:** *Do good and don't tell anyone about it!*

a. This is like medicine for our soul! b. Medicine for our egos