

"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing." **Genesis 12:2 (NIV)**

You will increase my greatness and comfort me again. **Psalms 71:21 (ESV)**

GREATNESS REDEFINED

"Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

Mark 10:35-45 (NIV)

1. WE ARE HARDWIRED FOR GREATNESS

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. **Gen 1:27 (ESV)**

2. THERE IS A HIGH PRICE TO PAY FOR GREATNESS

"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?" "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, 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." **Mark 10:38 (NIV)**

3. A MISGUIDED DRIVE FOR GREATNESS WILL DAMAGE RELATIONSHIPS

When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers.

Mark 10:41 (NIV)

Misguided greatness:

- **Prestige** (how people look at us)
- **Pride** (pleasure from one's achievement)
- **Power** (illusion of control)
- **Performance** (what we did)
- **Position** (authority over others)

4. TRUE GREATNESS WILL ALWAYS ELEVATE THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.

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. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 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."

Mark 10:42-45 (NIV)