

Personal Study Questions to Help Prepare for the Sermon

Read Matthew 20:1-16

- ◆ How are Matthew 19:30 and Matthew 20:16 similar? How are they different? Why do you think Matthew records Jesus' similar statement in Matthew 19:30 and Matthew 20:16?
- ◆ In what practical ways are we tempted to pursue being first here in this world in our homes? In our church? In our workplace?
- ◆ In what practical ways might we rightly pursue being last here in this world in our homes? In our church? In our workplace?
- ◆ What does it mean that the first will be last?
- ◆ Why is the pursuit of being first in this world so offensive to God?
- ◆ Why is the pursuit of being last in this world so precious to God?
- ◆ Is it right or wrong for us to desire to be first in eternal joy? Why or why not?
- ◆ What does the parable teach us about God's generosity/grace? How does this practically affect the way we live?
- ◆ What does it mean that the last will be first?
- ◆ How does the pursuit of being first in eternal joy change the way we live? What specific actions might you recommend in order to increase your eternal joy?
- ◆ What does this parable teach us about envy and watching the way God blesses others? How does this practically affect the way we live?



Small Groups

Guide for sermon on
May 11, 2014

Group Discussion Questions

1. What is the main point from the Scripture as it was taught on Sunday?
2. Are there any Study Questions from the week that you want to discuss?
3. What difference should this Scripture make in our lives today?
4. How does God want your personal beliefs and actions to change based on this Scripture?
5. How can you plan to accomplish this change with God's grace this week? What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

This Week's Memory Verse:

"And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." "

Romans 6:12-13