



Today, we're continuing our study of the book of Mark. We've named the series "Unreasonable God" because God has done the unreasonable by going above and beyond in giving us Jesus. Furthermore, God calls us to unreasonable obedience as we follow Him. Throughout the book of Mark, we see God doing amazing - unreasonable things. Today, in Mark 9:33-37, Jesus uses a moment of discord among His disciples to teach a lesson on unreasonable servanthood. The disciples, debating who among them was the greatest, reveal a common desire for recognition and status. Jesus responds by redefining greatness, declaring that true significance comes through serving others and placing oneself last. By placing a child before them, Jesus illustrates the importance of serving even the seemingly insignificant.

Key Passage: Mark 9:33-37

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Proverbs 11:2 and James 4:6. What do these verses teach us about humility and pride?
2. In what situations today might we find ourselves struggling with the same desire for recognition and status that the disciples faced in Mark 9:33-34? How does this temptation show up in our lives?
3. What does Jesus' teaching in Mark 9:35 reveal about true greatness in God's kingdom? How did the disciples' desire for greatness contradict Jesus' teaching?
4. How does Jesus use a child in His teaching to illustrate His point about true greatness (Mark 9:36-37)? Who are the people we most likely overlook in our pursuit of worldly greatness?
5. How does this passage challenge our cultural views of success and status?
6. How can believers demonstrate the humility and service Jesus describes daily?
7. How does welcoming "the least" reflect a person's relationship with God?
8. What about this study has challenged you most? What's your biggest takeaway?