



## Week of Oct 8 - a

### Scripture: Mt 20:20-28

**Main Idea:** These two apostles of Jesus (James and John) thought he was planning to lead a revolt against Rome and restore the physical kingdom of Israel. They were trying to position themselves to be the highest-ranking officers under Jesus' rule. Little did they know, Jesus' kingdom would be a spiritual one (the church), and that the highest form of leadership as Christians would be to humbly serve.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** What do we need to do to be a leader in Jesus' kingdom? Is God prouder of you when you are a nice helper, or a bossy boss?

**Grade school:** Maybe they thought that the kingdom of Jesus would be on earth when they asked that question. Maybe they wanted the most power in the army they thought Jesus was going to set up. It was like a request for an important job in government. Remember, they were called the sons of Thunder!

**Teen:** Who is great in the Kingdom of God? Who is first in the Kingdom of God? Why did the Son of Man come? What is our role in the Kingdom?

**Adult:** It is interesting that the mother of James and John requested this favor of Jesus, yet they were close enough that he could ask a question and they answered. Do you think they had been discussing the other apostles and their relative strengths and weaknesses. How do you imagine those conversations might have gone? Do you think they put her up to asking Jesus this question? What did they hope to gain by taking these positions of power? How do you think they reacted when Jesus responded?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

PRAY: For us to have more humble and servant hearts.

#### October Memory Verse:

**Psalm 103:12 (ESV)**  
<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from  
the west, so far does he  
remove our transgressions  
from us.



## Week of Oct 8 - b

### Scripture: Mt 20:29-34

**Main Idea:** Jesus is traveling from one town to another, trying to spread the good news of the coming kingdom (the church). He may have been in a hurry. He has a large crowd following him. These two blind men sitting beside the road cry out for Jesus to help them. The crowd rebukes them but Jesus has pity on them. As a result, these two men receive their sight.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** Even though Jesus had a lot to do, did he ignore the needs of others?

**Grade school:** Can you picture how this may have happened? Close your eyes. They probably had their attention aroused by the footsteps of so many people, the voices of the crowd, and they asked people to tell them what was happening. When they heard that Jesus was there, don't you think their first thought was 'what if he could make me see?' So they shouted out to Jesus as he walked by. The crowd tries to make them be quiet, possibly wanting to keep Jesus all to themselves and just leave the men there. Why did Jesus stop and help them?

**Teen:** Is Jesus affected when we are hurting? Despite what the crowd wanted these men to do they continued to reach out to Jesus. If we have that same determination for Christ how will it help us in the world today? Do you ever feel the crowd, or the world is telling you to be quiet? If so, how do you respond?

**Adult:** There are many of these small stories squeezed between other, seemingly more important stories, in the New Testament. Why do you think this one has been preserved for us? What is the message it wants us to understand? Is it something related to the blind men themselves? Is it something about the crowd rebuking the blind men? Or is it something about being touched by Jesus and following him? Why do you focus on that piece of the story?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**PRAY:** For us to care more about the less fortunate and find ways to help and encourage them

#### October Memory Verse:

#### Psalm 103:12 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.