

Leadership and Greatness

Matthew 20:20-28, Matthew 9:37-38, 1 Peter 5:1-3, 1 Samuel 18:8-9, 15:12

There is power in building our life through servanthood and constantly asking God where he can use us.

Often it's as easy as starting to serve with whatever opportunity you have right in front of you. When we allow God to use us to be his vessel, in our careers, business, or as a parent, then nothing we have is too small for him to use for something great and ultimately for his glory.

Jesus was the perfect example of servanthood and leadership, and he exemplified how great leadership attracts servanthood. Everything about the way Jesus lived his life was about serving the will of the Father. He used every opportunity he had as the Son of God to serve humanity, even unto death on a cross. By serving what was in front of him, and through all he did, he taught us what it is to be great.

There is much that can get in the way of great leadership. When we lead out of our own natural ability we can start to compare with the blessings and prosperity of the people around us. However if we are leaders that make it about others, taking every opportunity to resource, release and equip other people, empowering them to be all that God has called them to be, then we can believe God to see him fulfil the greatness he has for our lives. So let's be leaders who make people and not break people!

Serving does not mean abandoning leadership but instead embodying real leadership, which is leading with a servant heart; honouring and respecting those around you. Let's be this type of leader at home and in our workplaces and encourage and empower those around you to do the same.

Believe for God to do something great because greatness is on your life!

Church Highlights

- "Nothing is Impossible" nights
- The upcoming release of our new Hillsong Worship Album "Open Heaven / River Wild"
- Ps Brian's Book "Live, Love, Lead"

Pray Together

- **Salvations - that people come to know Jesus.**
- **Pastors Brian and Bobbie Houston, and the launch of "Live, Love, Lead" across the world.**
- **For the multiplication of Connect Groups and Connect Group leaders.**

Nation Builders

We can make a difference as a connect group by praying for the Nation Builders causes we support and by giving together. Our offering extends the reach of our church locally to reach and influence the world for Jesus.

Leadership and Greatness

Connection and Action

Questions to promote conversation and connection

Greatness

- Q Do you think of yourself as an ambitious person? Tell us some more about that.
- Q Do you think it is right for us to be ambitious or to aspire to be great? Why? Why not?
- Q What guidelines or principles should be applied to our aspirations and ambitions?
- Q How can being involved in church help release greatness in other fields of life? (*Leaders Tip: For example, people can have their first experience as a leader in church*)
- Q What price or costs come with greatness?

Servanthood

- Q Jesus tells us that to be great we should be servant of all. What do you think he means? Why do you think he said that?
- Q What does being a servant mean? Does it mean doing all the menial and dirty jobs?
- Q List some opportunities in your home, workplace or ministry where you can serve others.

Bible and Belief

Questions to help believers develop a biblical world view

Read Matthew 20:20-28

- Q Who are the main characters in this passage? What do you think is going through their minds as the action unfolds?
- Q What stands out to you in this passage?
- Q What do you think is motivating the mother of Zebedee's sons?
- Q What is the "cup" that Jesus refers to in vv22-23? Why does he refer to it? What is the point of his question in v22?
- Q Discuss the difference between the greatness of the rulers of the Gentiles and the greatness Jesus is describing.
- Q What does this passage say about wanting to be great or wanting to be first?
- Q How does Jesus model a life of greatness and servanthood?
- Q How does Jesus' example of servanthood and sacrifice (v28) apply to us today?
- Q What are your thoughts, feelings and responses to this passage?

Growing Leadership

Questions to help people grow as leaders

- Q What great things do you aspire to as a leader?
- Q How have you become a big-spirited leader?
- Q Some Christians wrongly think it is carnal to want to be successful. Why would people think this?
- Q As a leader, what does it mean to serve the people you lead?
- Q How does a leader spot potential in people? What do you look for?
- Q What have you learned about bringing out the greatness in the people you lead?
- Q How do you build a servant heart in the people you lead?
- Q What do you think of Ps Brian's statement "when you get a great leadership culture, you get a great servanthood culture"?
- Q How can we help people get a vision for their lives?

Pastoral Care

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people through life's challenges
- With their permission, should anyone in your connect group experience sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, or surgeries, please contact our church office:
Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500, Newcastle 02 4927 1888