

*They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." Mark 9:33-37 (NIV)*

## **Servant Of All**

**Do you want me to do great things in and through your life?** I'm glad that you did ask me if I wanted to be great. **Why is that?** The desire to be great seems so prideful, selfish and sinful. **Say more.** I don't want greatness for myself to be a driver in my life. In answer to your question, I do want you to do great things in and through my life. I don't want to be a failure that's for sure. I don't care if I ever receive recognition from others for what I have done. It won't bother me one bit if my efforts go unnoticed. **I doubt that.** Let me clarify. I do want you to notice my efforts. **Why is that?** I want to do what pleases you. I want my life to be well used for your kingdom. I do want to bring glory to your name. I do want you to be noticed. I want others to be drawn to you through the work that you have given me to do for you. So you are right. I don't want my efforts to go unnoticed. I won't mind if I go unnoticed. **I can believe that. We both know why that is true.** Yes, we do. **Tell me what you know.** Whatever I do for you, no matter how small, will be noticed by you. **Yes, that is right.** That is why I will never need to give receiving credit, for something I have done, a second of thought. **That is also right.**

**So, what attitude will carry through life as you follow me?** I will be your servant. You will be my role model. I want to become like you. I want to give like you gave. I want to serve like you served. I want to live like you lived. I will go out of my way to serve others. I will look out for the interests of others. I will think about what others need. I will have a willing heart and open hand to meet the needs of those around me. I will allow you to use me however you desire. **That will be very good.**

*Lord, I do want you to do great things in and through my life. Not for my own praise, honor and glory. I want to be used by you.  
Help me to use all you have given me to serve others. I want to become, a servant of all, for you. Amen*

**If** *Wants To Be First*

They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

NIV Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Wants To Be First*

After they arrived at Capernaum and settled in a house, Jesus asked his disciples, "What were you discussing out on the road?" But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve disciples over to him, and said, "Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else." Then he put a little child among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me."

NLT Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Wants To Be First*

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

NRSV Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Desires To Be First*

And they arrived at Capernaum; and when [they were] in the house, He asked them, What were you discussing and arguing about on the road? But they kept still, for on the road they had discussed and disputed with one another as to who was the greatest. And He sat down and called the Twelve [apostles], and He said to them, If anyone desires to be first, he must be last of all, and servant of all. And He took a little child and put him in the center of their group; and taking him in [His] arms, He said to them, Whoever in My name and for My sake accepts and receives and welcomes one such child also accepts and receives and welcomes Me; and whoever so receives Me receives not only Me but Him Who sent Me.

AMP Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Wants To Be First*

They came to Capernaum; and when He was in the house, He began to question them, "What were you discussing on the way?" But they kept silent, for on the way they had discussed with one another which of them was the greatest. Sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all." Taking a child, He set him before them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, "Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who sent Me."

NASB Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Would Be First*

And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

ESV Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Desires To Be First*

Then He came to Capernaum. And when He was in the house He asked them, "What was it you disputed among yourselves on the road?" But they kept silent, for on the road they had disputed among themselves who would be the greatest. And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all." Then He took a little child and set him in the midst of them. And when He had taken him in His arms, He said to them, "Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me."

NKJV Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Want First Place*

They came to Capernaum. When he was safe at home, he asked them, "What were you discussing on the road?" The silence was deafening—they had been arguing with one another over who among them was greatest. He sat down and summoned the Twelve. "So you want first place? Then take the last place. Be the servant of all." He put a child in the middle of the room. Then, cradling the little one in his arms, he said, "Whoever embraces one of these children as I do embraces me, and far more than me—God who sent me."

MSG Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Wanting To Be The Greatest*

And so they arrived at Capernaum. When they were settled in the house where they were to stay he asked them, "What were you discussing out on the road?" But they were ashamed to answer, for they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest! He sat down and called them around him and said, "Anyone wanting to be the greatest must be the least—the servant of all!" Then he placed a little child among them; and taking the child in his arms he said to them, "Anyone who welcomes a little child like this in my name is welcoming me, and anyone who welcomes me is welcoming my Father who sent me!"

TLB Mark 9:33-37

**If** *Wants To Be The Most Important*

Jesus and his followers went to Capernaum. When they went into a house there, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But the followers did not answer, because their argument on the road was about which one of them was the greatest. Jesus sat down and called the twelve apostles to him. He said, "Whoever wants to be the most important must be last of all and servant of all." Then Jesus took a small child and had him stand among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said, "Whoever accepts a child like this in my name accepts me. And whoever accepts me accepts the One who sent me."

NCV Mark 9:33-37

# Wants To Be First

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If – Mark 9:33-37

In Context: Read Mark 9

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." Mark 9:33-37

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

They came | to Capernaum. | When | he was | in the house, | he asked them, | "What were | you arguing about | on the road?" | But they | kept quiet | because | on | the way | they | had argued | about who | was | the greatest. | Sitting down, | Jesus called | the Twelve | and said, | "If anyone | wants to | be first, | he | must be | the very last, | and | the servant | of all." | He took | a little child | and | had him | stand | among them. | Taking him | in his arms, | he said | to them, | "Whoever welcomes | one of these | little children | in | my name | welcomes me; | and | whoever | welcomes me | does not | welcome me | but | the one | who | sent me." Mark 9:33-37

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I do want you to do great things in and through my life. Not for my own praise, honor and glory. I want to be used by you. Help me to use all you have given me to serve others. I want to become a servant of all for you. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**When have you wanted the Lord to do something great in and through your life?**

How willing are you to become a servant of all?

What will it cost you if you want to become a servant of all?

**When has the Lord done something great in and through your life as you served others?**

When has someone done something for you that required sacrificial service?

**Who have you recently served with your time, talent and resources?**

How are you welcoming to all by your service to them?

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the Lord to do great things in and through you as you are His servant to all.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will use you as one of His servants to all.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has done something great through your service to others.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you allow the Lord to use you as a servant of all.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will allow you to use me as a servant of all.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how do you want to use me as a servant of all today?*

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