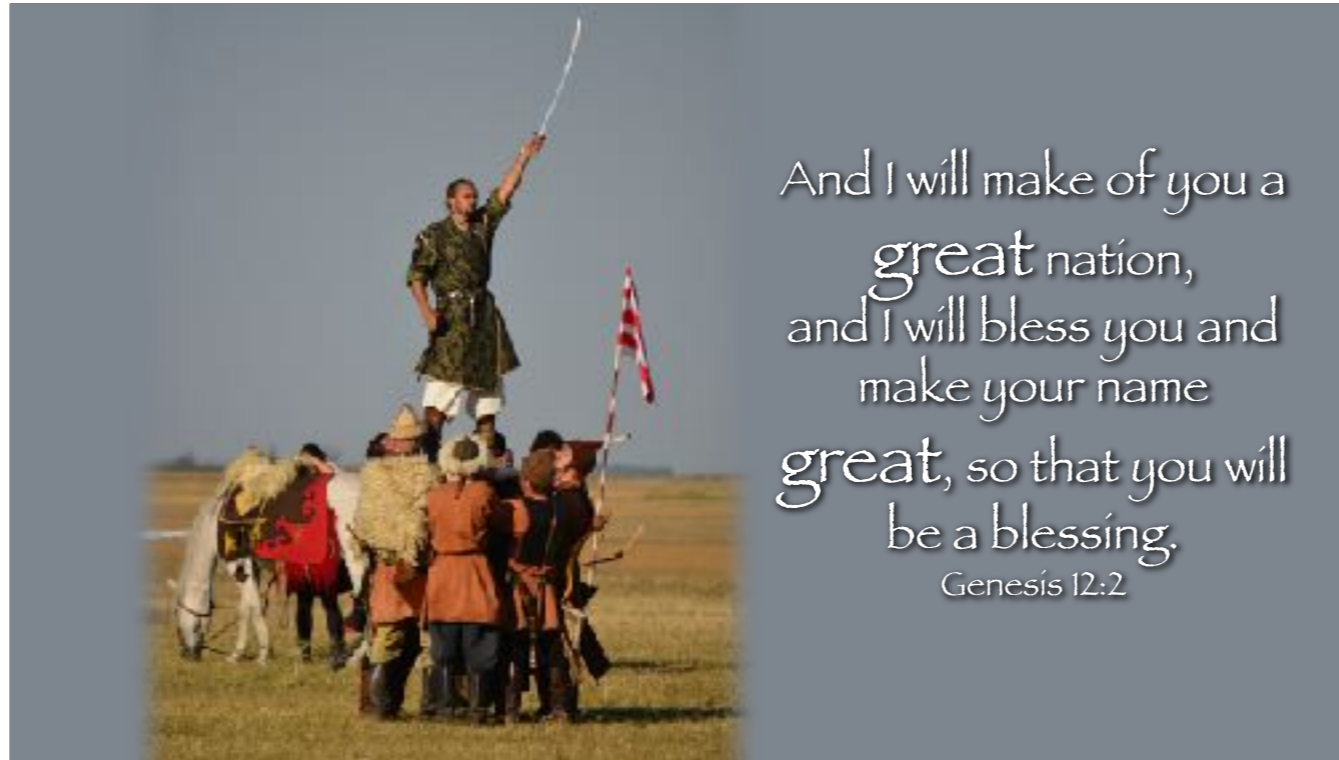




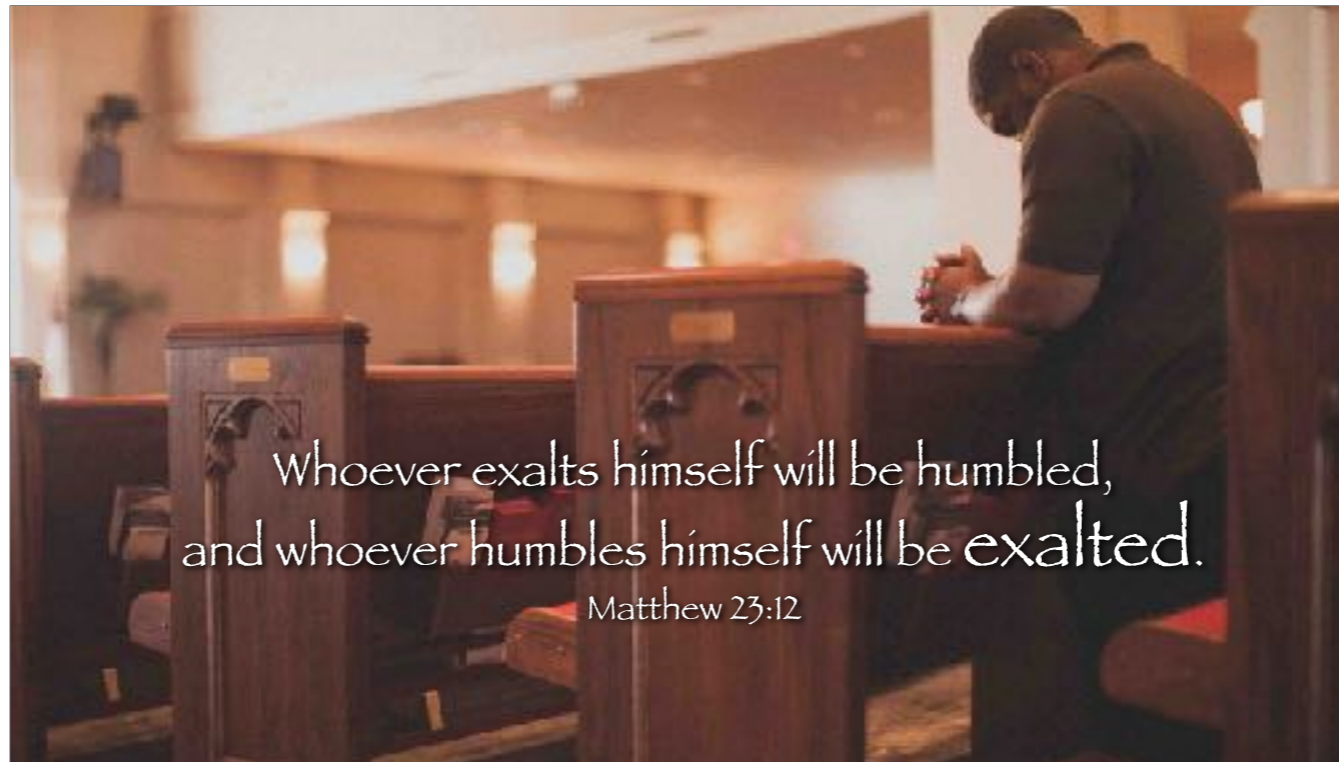
Where Will You Sit?

Luke 14:7-11

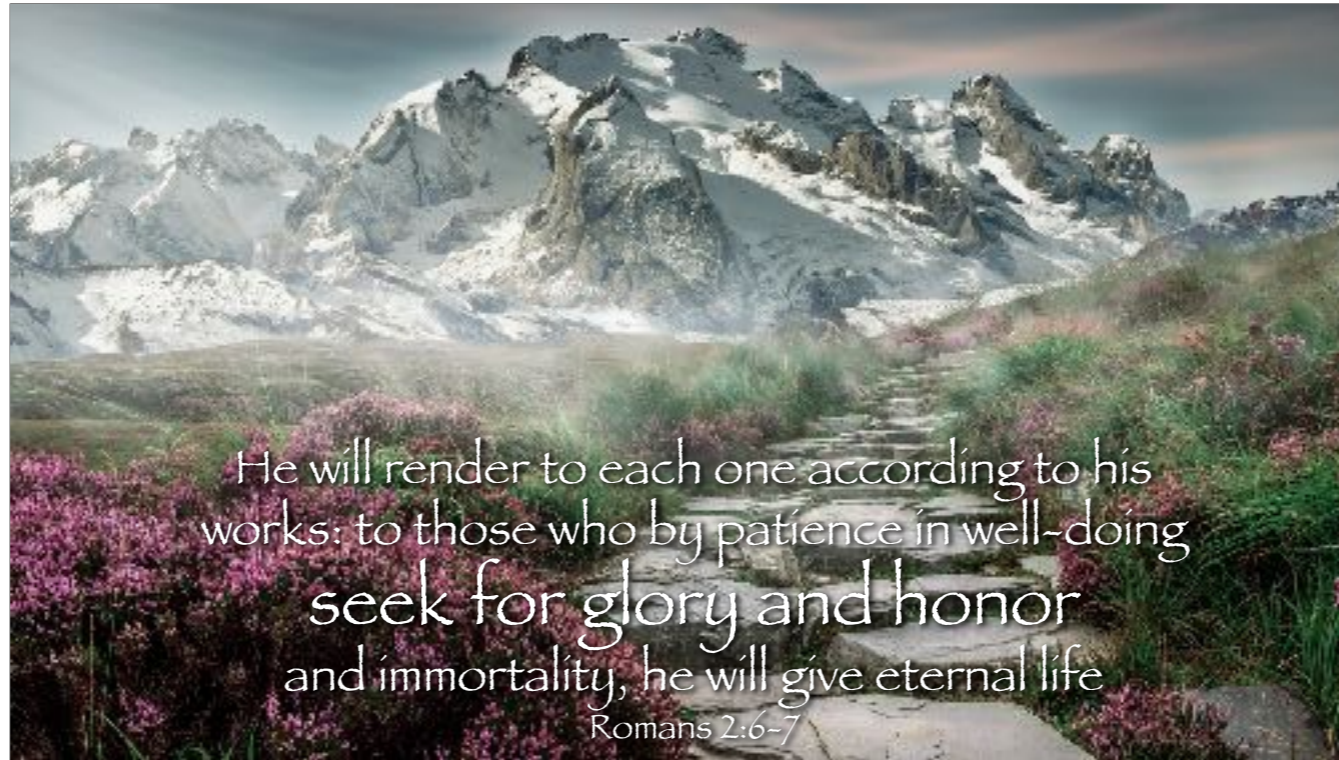


And I will make of you a
great nation,
and I will bless you and
make your name
great, so that you will
be a blessing.
Genesis 12:2

- God promises us Greatness, glory, exaltation
- Genesis 12:2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.



- Matthew 23:12: Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.



- Romans 2:6-7 (ESV) 6 He will render to each one according to his works: 7 to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life;



- Romans 2:10 (ESV) 10 but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek.



- Where Will You Sit?
- Luke 14:7-11 (ESV) 7 Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them,
- 8 “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast,
- do not sit down in a place of honor,
- lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him,
- 9 and he who invited you both will come and say to you,
- ‘Give your place to this person,’
- and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.



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 - and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.



- 10 But when you are invited,
- go and sit in the lowest place,
- so that when your host comes he may say to you,
- 'Friend, move up higher.'
- Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you.
- 11 For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."
-



- This describes our struggle with being honored and caring what others think of us very well.
 - Generally, we think that the best way to gain honor is to put ourselves forward.
 - If we don't put ourselves forward who will?
- How many ways do we do this in our lives without really thinking about it?
 - driving?
 - class grades?
 - job?



- Because of how we've been raised culturally, humbling oneself is often difficult and counter-intuitive.
 - And often it is despised by the world
 - Or some would use this as a tool against us to advance themselves or take advantage of us.



- The Desire to be Great



- Mark 9:33-37: 33 And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.



- Mark 10:35-45: 35 And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." 36 And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" 37 And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." 38 Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" 39 And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, 40 but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." 41 And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John.
- Maybe they wouldn't be indignant if they understood that James would be the first among them to die?



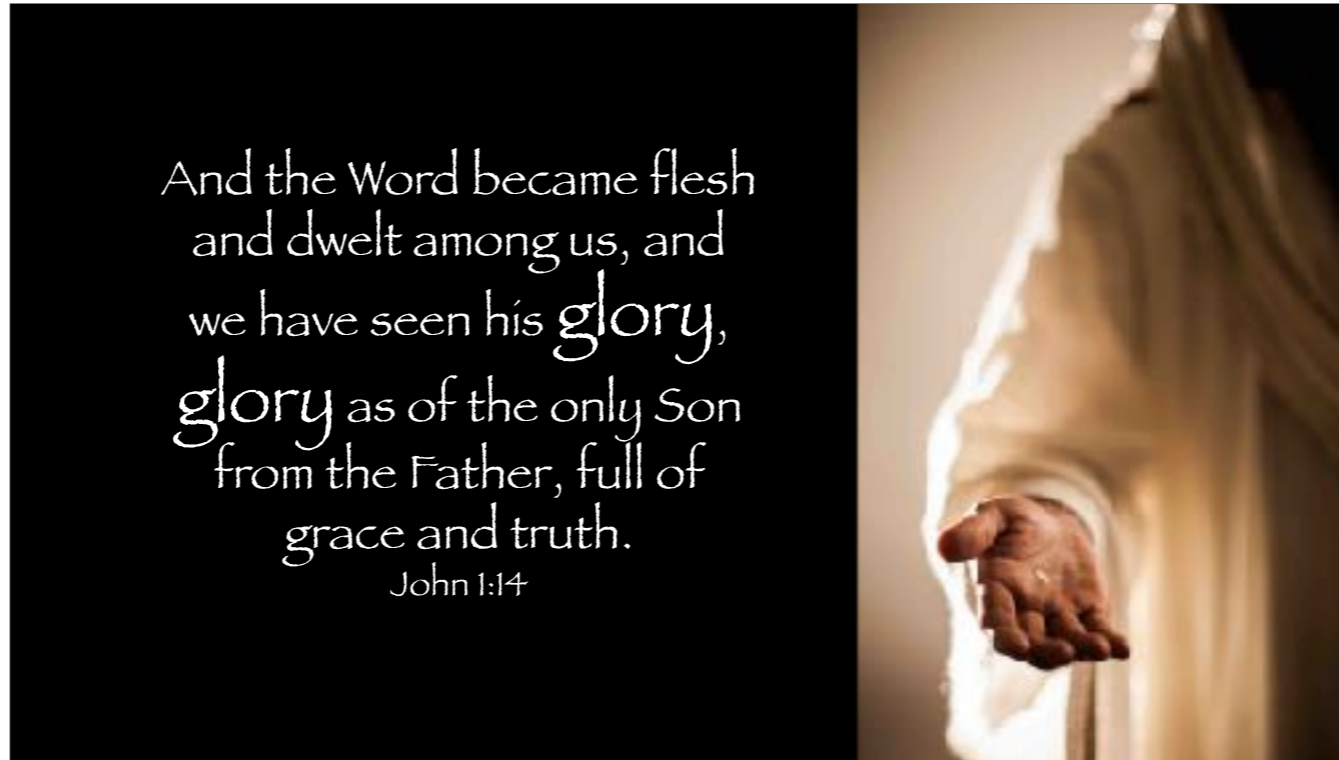
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- Matthew 18:1-4: 1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”



- Jesus' Glory



- John 1:14 (ESV) 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

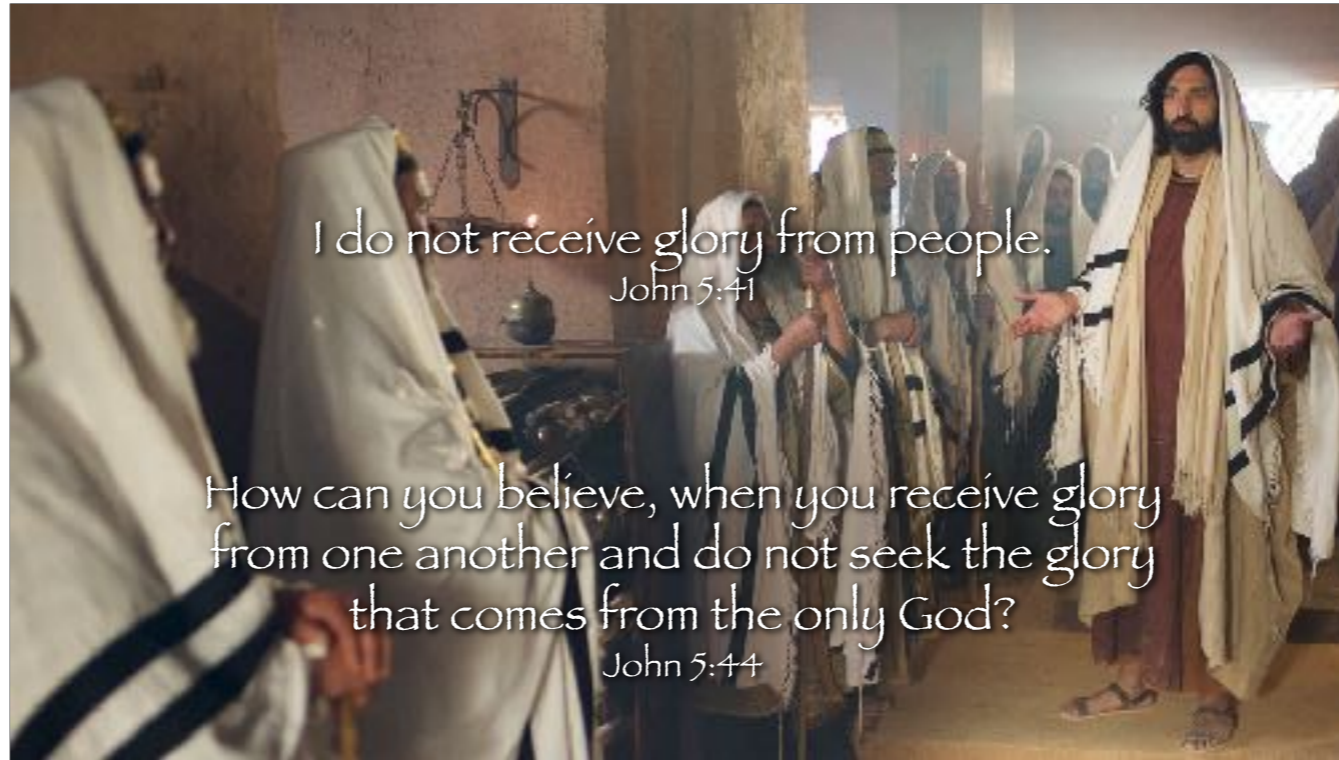
He will be great
and will be called the
Son of the Most High.
Luke 1:32



- Angel to Mary before birth of Jesus
- Luke 1:32-33 (ESV) 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”



- John 5:41 (ESV) 41 I do not receive glory from people.



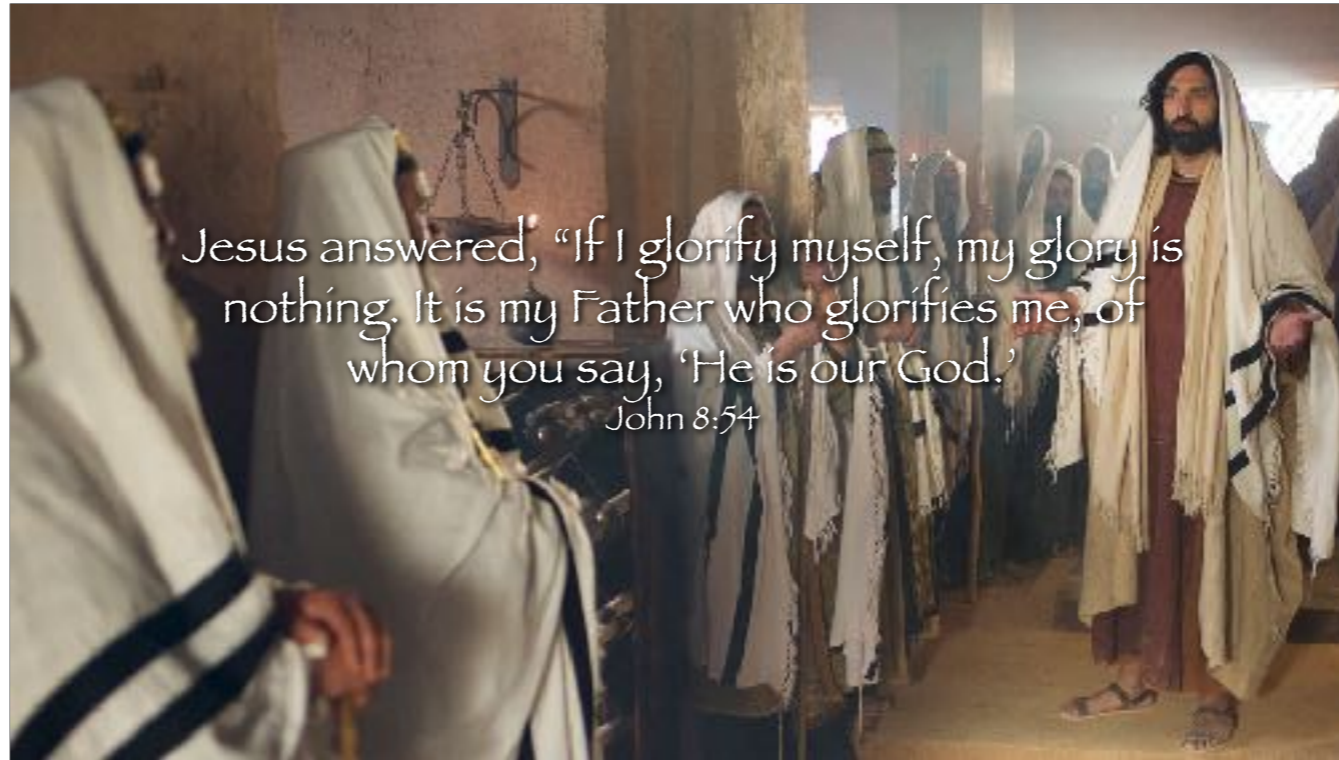
- John 5:41 (ESV) 41 I do not receive glory from people.
- John 5:44 (ESV) 44 How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?



- John 12:39-43 (ESV) 39 Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, 40 “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.” 41 Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. 42 Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.



- John 8:48-59 (ESV) 48 The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" 49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. 50 **Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge.**



- 51 Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” 52 The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” 54 Jesus answered, **“If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’** 55 But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” 57 So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” 58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.



- Jesus Teaches His disciples about Being Great
 - Jesus doesn't tell them that their desire to be great is wrong,
 - but that the way that they are trying to be great is wrong.



- Mark 9:33-37: 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.
- 35 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." 36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, 37 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."
- last of all
- servant of all
- receives one such child in my name



- Mark 10:35-45
- 42 And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43 But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”
- servant
- slave of all
- give his life as a ransom



- Matthew 18:1-4: 1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”
- Jesus’ rebuttal
- 2 And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them
- 3 and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- turn
- become like a child
- humbles himself
-



- Jesus Teaches His disciples about Being Great
 - Jesus doesn't tell them that their desire to be great is wrong,
 - but that the way that they are trying to be great is wrong.



- So, looking to the example of Jesus, how do I become great?
 - Don't seek your own glory (let Your father glorify you)
 - We are destined for glory and greatness
 - Look to God: Know Him and Keep His Word
 - Believe in Jesus and seek Life through Him
 - Find ways to help those who cannot help themselves ("receive a child")
 - Be willing to help others grow spiritually.
 - Be Humble



- Where will you sit?
 - Will you sit with your brother waiting for God to glorify you?

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW
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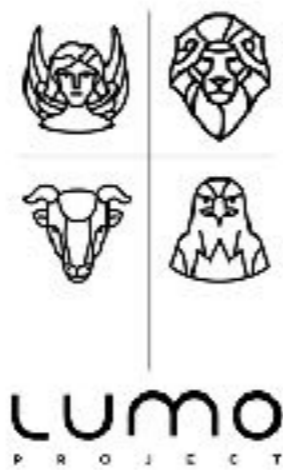
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Where Will You Sit?

Luke 14:7-11

Synopsis: It's not that it's wrong to seek glory, honor, and greatness. Rather we need to follow the example of our brother and allow our Father to glorify us.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”