

Introduction:

This past Sunday pastor Mark preached on Mark 9:33-37. The sermon was called “Are you a G.O.A.T.? (Greatest Of All Time)” We learned that the disciples had been discussing who among them was the greatest. Jesus confronts them about their ideas concerning greatness and says something rather surprising: **“If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”** You can find the sermon notes [here](#)¹ or listen to the sermon by clicking [here](#).²



“Greatness does not come from status; it comes from servitude.”

Scripture:

“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.”” (Mark 9:33–37 ESV)

So What?

The world’s philosophy is that you are “great” if you have climbed the corporate ladder, if you have people serving you. **Christ’s message is that greatness comes from serving others.** How you view service in general, and children’s ministry in particular, says much about your commitment to Jesus Christ. If you are not serving, you are not a disciple of Christ. If you devalue children’s ministry, if you dismiss it as “just babysitting,” you are not following Christ.

What Now? Pray and ask the Lord to reveal to you what your attitude toward servitude and greatness has been and how he wants you to change? Ask yourself:

1. Why did Jesus choose to illustrate his point about servitude being the mark of greatness by teaching that we are to receive children? How does this relate to humility and service. What does Jesus say are the implications of rejecting children?
2. What changes in our attitudes and actions does this scripture challenge us to make?
3. What is one thing we can do this week to put this into practice?
4. What effect would it have on the world around us if we put this into practice?

¹ <https://wheelsms.wordpress.com/2015/07/12/are-you-a-g-o-a-t-greatest-of-all-time/>

² <http://firstcentralbaptist.com/sermons.html>