



Who will be the G.O.A.T.?

1. God will only use a person who is **willing** to be used.
2. God is more concerned about your **attitude** than your aptitude.
3. **Humility** is a foundational component of a person God uses.
4. The disciples were deeply concerned with who would be the **greatest**.

Matthew 20:17-28 (ESV) ¹⁷ *And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them,* ¹⁸ *“See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And **the Son of Man** will be **delivered** over to the **chief priests** and **scribes**, and **they will condemn him to death** ¹⁹ and **deliver him over to the Gentiles** to be **mocked** and **flogged** and **crucified**, and **he will be raised on the third day.**”* ²⁰ *Then the **mother of the sons of Zebedee** came up to him with her sons, and **kneeling before him she asked him for something.*** ²¹ *And he said to her, **“What do you want?”*** She said to him, ***“Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.”*** ²² *Jesus answered, **“You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?”*** They said to him, ***“WE ARE ABLE.”*** ²³ *He said to them, **“You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.”*** ²⁴ *And **when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers.*** ²⁵ *But Jesus called them to him and said, **“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.*** ²⁶ ***IT SHALL NOT BE SO AMONG YOU. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,*** ²⁷ *and **whoever would be first among you must be your slave,*** ²⁸ ***EVEN AS the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for (IN PLACDE OF) many.”***

1. JESUS ANNOUNCES HIS IMPENDING DEATH ¹⁷⁻¹⁹

(FOR THE THIRD TIME)

1. The **future** of Jesus includes betrayal, desertion, injustice, humiliation, suffering, and death.
2. This creates great **stress** in His life.
3. Every announcement grows in **detail**, but the disciples become less responsive every time.

2. JAMES AND JOHN (AND THEIR MOTHER) MAKE A CALCULATED REQUEST 20-24

1. Notice the **timing** of the request. **THEN**. As soon as Jesus makes the announcement of His upcoming death, mom comes with a request.
2. There was a **basis** for their request. Matthew 19:28
3. The disciples were **obsessed** with desire to know who would be the greatest. Matt 18, 20; Mark 9, 10; Luke 9, 22
4. The request was made in **ignorance**. "You do not know what you are asking."
5. The request was **selfish**.
6. The request was made with **pride**. "WE ARE ABLE."
7. The request created a **strong negative** feeling in the other disciples.

3. JESUS GIVES INSTRUCTION ABOUT GREATNESS IN **GOD'S KINGDOM** 25-28

1. Greatness in the world's estimation is determined by who you **command**.
2. Greatness in God's Kingdom is determined by who you **serve**.
3. Greatness in God's Kingdom is found in giving up your **rights** and **privileges** for the sake of helping others.
4. The Kingdom of God advances with **calloused knees** and **open hands**.

You become great in God's eyes when you served others