

Sunday Reading

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark 9:30–37: The Greatest in the Kingdom

Jesus and his disciples left from there and began a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish anyone to know about it. He was teaching his disciples and telling them, “The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise.” But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him.

They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house, he began to ask them, “What were you arguing about on the

way?” But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”

Focus Questions

1. What was Jesus teaching His disciples about as they travelled to Galilee? How is this similar to what Jesus taught His disciples in last week’s Gospel? (Mark 8:27-35)
2. What were the disciples arguing about?
3. What is Jesus’ answer to the disciples’ argument?
4. How does Jesus use a child as an example?

Who Is the Greatest?

Directions: Before reading the Gospel for this week, complete the **Before Reading the Gospel** chart. Then, after reading the Gospel and answering the focus questions, complete the **After Reading the Gospel** chart.

Before Reading the Gospel...

With a partner, list 5 ways that a person might know that he or she has “made it” or is “the greatest”.

Without reading the Gospel yet, what do you think Jesus teaches about who is “the greatest” in the Kingdom of God?

After Reading the Gospel...

What were three things that were important to you when you were younger?

What are three things that are important to you today?

How have your priorities changed? Do you think they will change again as you grow and mature?

Based upon what you have learned and what you know about Jesus and being Catholic, write three rules for greatness in the Kingdom of God.

1. _____

2. _____

3.
