

# WE MUST SERVE OTHERS

Jesus told His disciples that soon he would be handed over to those who would kill him. He told them that he would rise from the dead. Then James and John said to Jesus, "When you go to heaven, we want the special places of honor. We want to sit at your right hand, and at your left hand." Jesus told them, "It is not for me to decide who sits at my right and my left."

The other disciples, or followers of Jesus, heard what James and John asked for. They were mad at them for wanting the special places next to Jesus. Then Jesus taught all of them about being a leader.

He said, "Look at those who are not God's people. Their leaders do not treat people with respect. They think everyone else is below them. They act very important, and make everyone else wait on them."

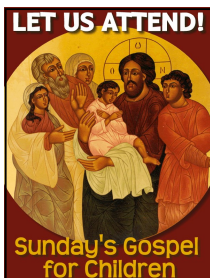
Jesus then said, "If you want to be my follower, you must be the opposite. You must see everyone as equal to yourself. You must be kind to all. You must serve everyone. I came not to be served, but to serve others, and to give my life for all."



Icon courtesy of Iconographics ([www.theologic.com](http://www.theologic.com))

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What did Jesus tell the disciples about his death?
2. When Jesus came to His kingdom, where did James and John want to sit?
3. Was it Jesus who would choose who sat at his right and at his left?
4. Jesus said that most leaders want other people to wait on, or serve, them.
5. If we are followers of Jesus, are we the ones who are important, or are we the ones who serve others?



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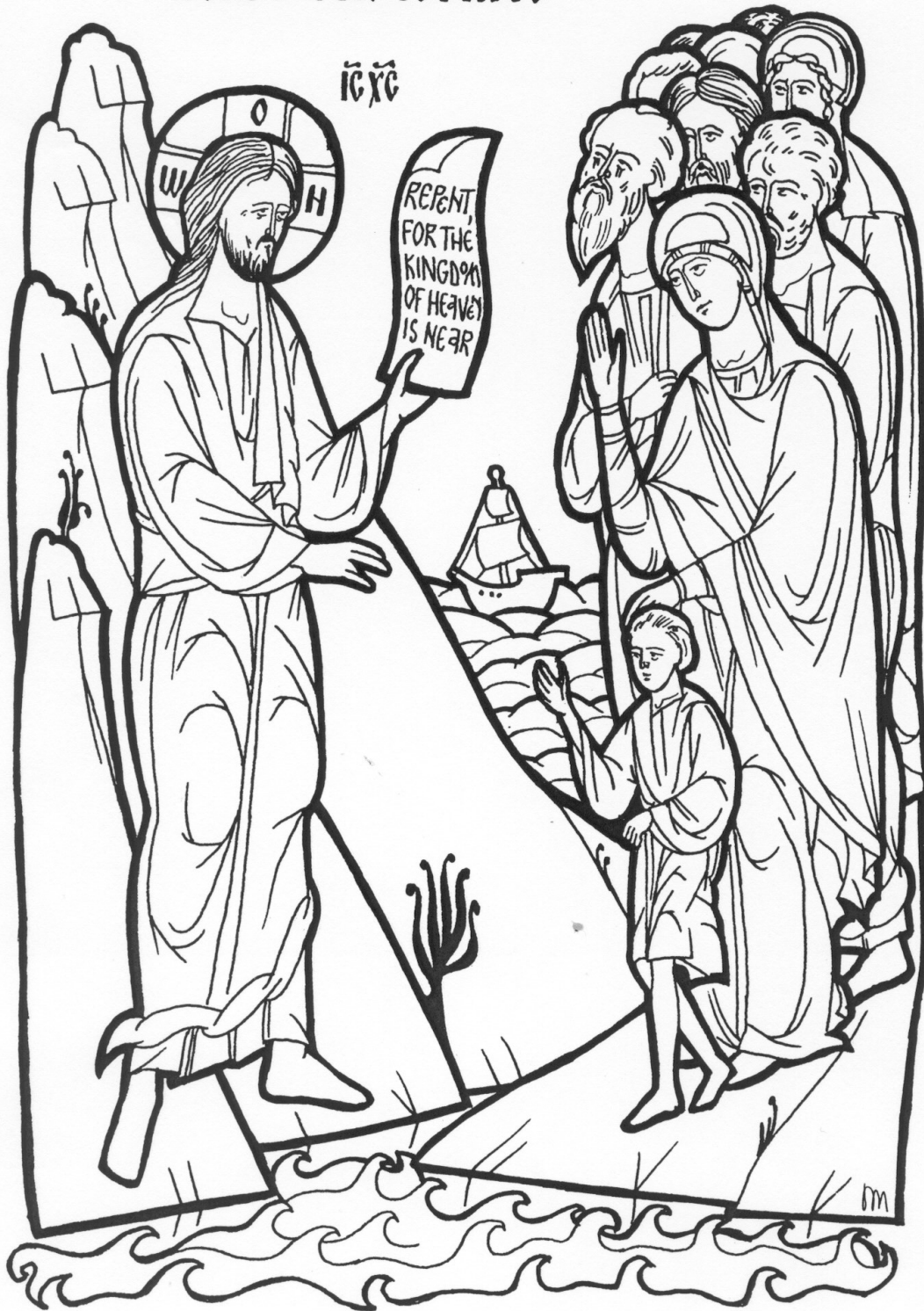


Pre-12



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## ·JESUS PREACHING·



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**One time, our Lord Jesus** told His disciples that when they went to Jerusalem, many sad things would happen to Him. He told them that He would die, and after three days, He would rise again.

James and John came to talk to Jesus. They asked Him to do something for them. "What do you want Me to do?" He asked.

"We want you to let us sit right beside You, in the special seats on your left and right, when you are in Your glory," they answered.

Jesus said, "Before that happens, all three of us will have hard things happen to us. It is not my job to say who will sit right beside me, anyway."

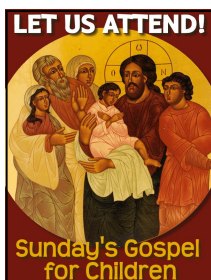
When the other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were very mad. Jesus called them over and said, "You know that earthly rulers act so important and use their power to show off. But it should not be that way with my followers. Any of you that wants to be great should be a servant. Whoever wants to be important should serve everyone else. Even I did not come to be served, but to serve others, and to give My life to save many people."



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What did Jesus tell the disciples about his death? We read this Gospel in Lent to remind us that soon we will be experiencing Great and Holy Friday, and Pascha.
2. James and John told Jesus what they wanted. What did they want?
3. Was it Jesus who would choose who sat at his right and at his left?
4. Why were the other disciples mad at James and John?
5. Do you like it when other kids try to be more important than you? Why or why not?
6. Jesus told the disciples about how some rulers act. What did he say?
7. Since we are God's people, do we make others wait on us, or do we serve others?
8. Are we better than everyone else, or equal?



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## WE MUST SERVE OTHERS

**At that time,** Jesus took his twelve disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and scourge him, and spit upon him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again."

And James and John, the sons of Zeb'edee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And Jesus said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But 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?" 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; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but



Photo by Kristina Wenger

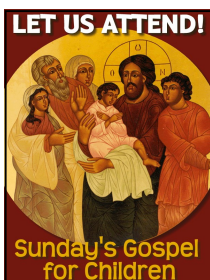
it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be

great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What is a ruler? What do you think a ruler does?
2. What does Jesus tell his disciples will happen to him at the beginning of the gospel?
3. Do you think a ruler would normally let those things happen to him or her?
4. At the end of the gospel, what does Jesus tell his disciples about how he is a ruler? About how they can be leaders?
5. What do you think makes a good leader?
6. How can you become a leader?



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# WE MUST SERVE OTHERS

Characters: Narrator, Jesus, James and John

Narrator: At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying,

Jesus: Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and scourge him, and spit upon him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.

Narrator: And James and John, the sons of Zeb'edee, came forward to him, and said to him,

James/John: Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.

Narrator: And Jesus said to them,

Jesus: What do you want me to do for you?

Narrator: And they said to him,

James/John: Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.

Narrator: But Jesus said to them,

Jesus: 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?

Narrator: And they said to him,

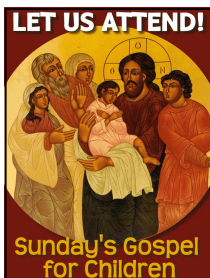
James/John: We are able.

Narrator: And Jesus said to them,

Jesus: The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; 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.

Narrator: And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them,

Jesus: You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.



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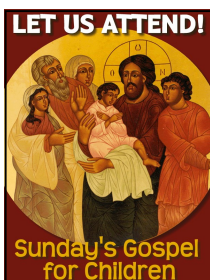
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Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does Jesus tell his disciples will happen to the son of man at the beginning of this gospel?
2. Who is the son of man?
3. What does Jesus say the son of man came to do at the end of this gospel?
4. What does Jesus tell the disciples they must do in order to become leaders?
5. What can you do this week to be a leader?



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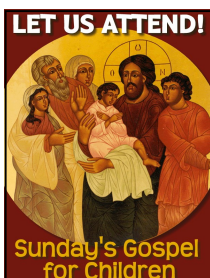


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1. What does Jesus tell his disciples will happen to the son of man at the beginning of this gospel?
2. Who is the son of man?
3. What do James and John want Jesus to do for them?
4. What does that suggest about what they thought a leader is and does?
5. What is the cup that Jesus told his disciples at the beginning of this gospel he will drink of?
6. What does Jesus say the son of man came to do at the end of this gospel?
7. What does Jesus tell the disciples they should do in order to be leaders?
8. What can you do this week to be a leader?



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