

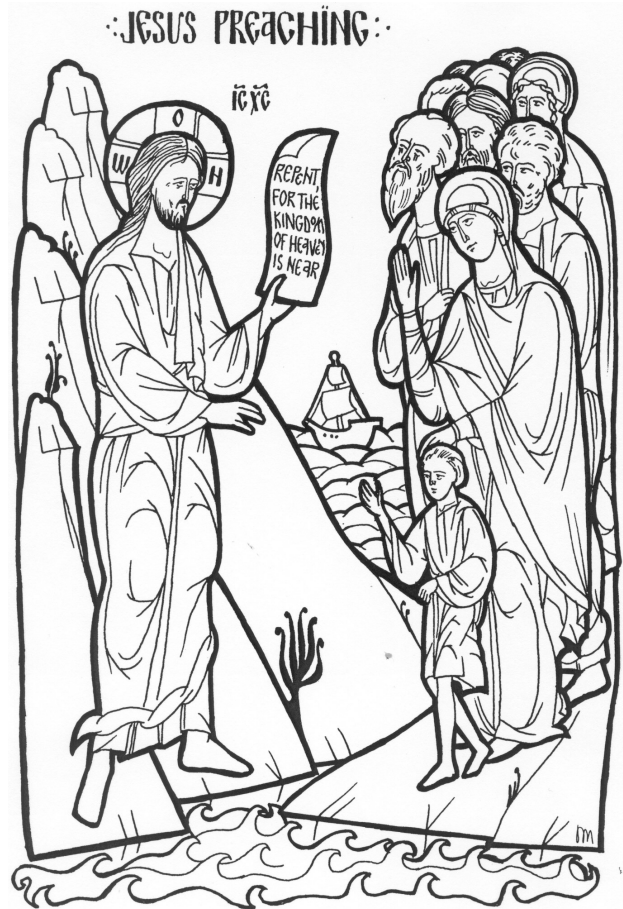
WE MUST SERVE OTHERS

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.”

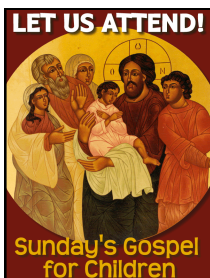
Jesus then said, “If you want to be my follower, you must be the opposite. You must see everyone as equal to yourself. You must be kind to all. You must serve everyone. I came not to be served, but to serve others, and to give my life for all.”



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

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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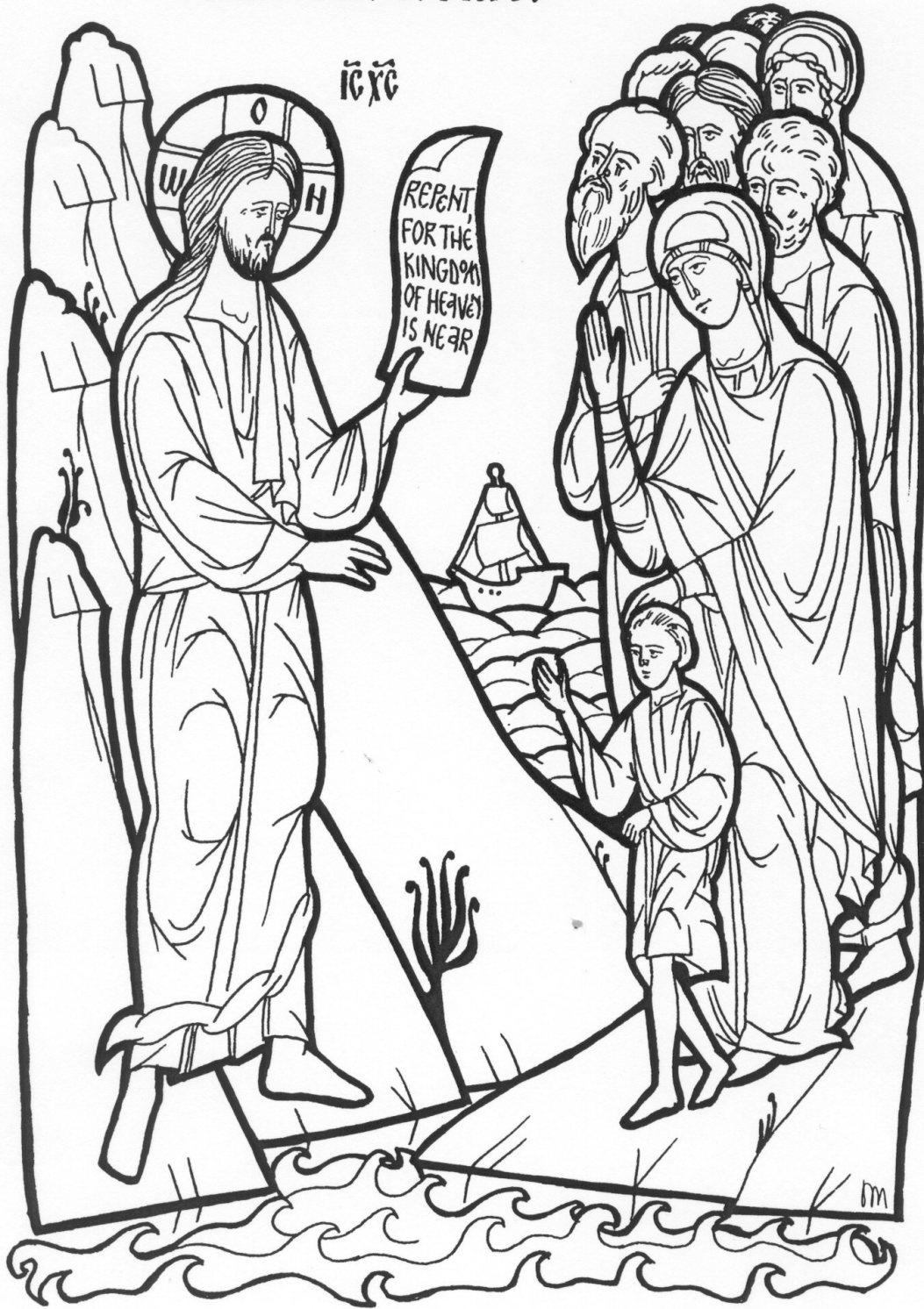


Pre-12



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·:JESUS PREACHING:·



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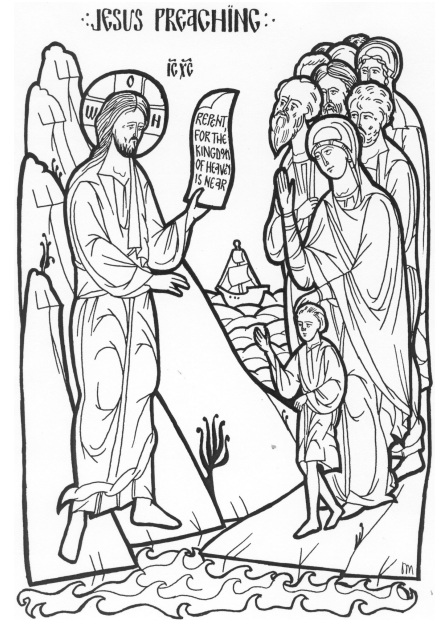
One time, our Lord Jesus told His disciples that when they went to Jerusalem, many sad things would happen to Him. He told them that He would die, and after three days, He would rise again.

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."

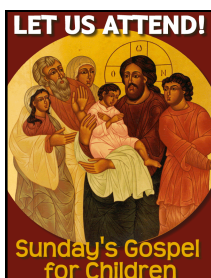
When the other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were very mad. Jesus called them over and said, "You know that earthly rulers act so important and use their power to show off. But it should not be that way with my followers. Any of you that wants to be great should be a servant. Whoever 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."



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Where did Jesus tell His disciples they would be going? What did He say would happen there?
2. Who asked Jesus for special seats beside Him?
3. How did the other disciples feel when they heard about it?
4. Have you ever been around someone who wanted all the attention or who wanted special treatment? How did it make you feel?
5. How did Jesus say His followers should treat others?
6. Look for chances to serve other people. Will you serve them like Jesus did?



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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

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

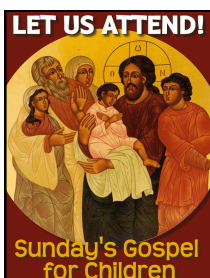
And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would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



Image courtesy of sxc.hu

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. At the beginning of this Gospel, Jesus gives his twelve disciples a "heads up." Where does He say they are going? What does He warn them will happen there?
2. Right away, James and John say something to Jesus. What do they say?
3. How did the other disciples react to James' and John's request?
4. Jesus reminds the disciples that worldly rulers act more important than their subjects. How does He say it should be among His followers?
5. Did Jesus Himself come to Earth to be served or to serve others?
6. Today you will have chances to serve others. Will you think of yourself and what you want, or like Jesus, will you serve others with love?



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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,

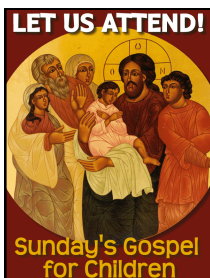
James/John: We are able.

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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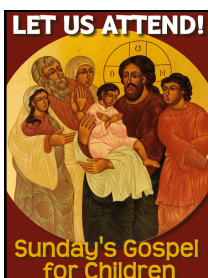
able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but 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. Today's Gospel begins by telling us they were on the road., by the words, "were going up to." What does one do on a road?
2. Where are they going?
3. Who is leading them?
4. How do they feel about this journey Jesus is leading them on?
5. What would cause them to be amazed? What do you think they might suddenly understand about Jesus and their trip that would cause them to be amazed?
6. What would cause them to be afraid? What do you think they might understand about Jesus and their trip that would cause them to be afraid?
7. Do you think they should be amazed? Afraid? Why or why not?



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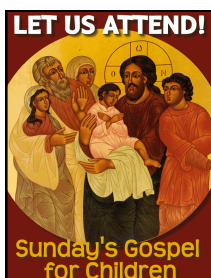


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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. This Gospel begins by telling us they were on the road, using the phrase, “going up to.” What does this tell us about the people in this Gospel?
2. Where are they going? Why would a group of people travel to that place? What is there? What does Jesus tell them will happen there? What does all of this tell us about them?
3. How do they feel about the journey they are on? Why do you think they feel this way?
4. What kind of road are we on as a community right now? What journey are we on?
5. What destination will we reach during Holy Week and Pascha?
6. What does our being on this journey tell us about our community?
7. How is our journey similar to the journey in today’s Gospel? How is it different?



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