Preparing for Greatness
Part 7 of Journey to the Cross
Rev. Jon Ashley
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“Preparation is not just a matter of filling a place. It is a matter of filling a soul.”

“Preparing for greatness”


24 Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them.
25 Jesus told them, “In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called ‘friends of the people.’
26 But among you it will be different. Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant.
27 Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves.
28 “You have stayed with me in my time of trial. 29 And just as my Father has granted me a Kingdom, I now grant you the right to eat and drink at my table in my Kingdom. And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
30 “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. 31 But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.”
32 Peter said, “Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you.”
33 But Jesus said, “Peter, let me tell you something. Before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me.”
34 Then Jesus asked them, “When I sent you out to preach the Good News and you did not have money, a traveler’s bag, or an extra pair of sandals, did you need anything?”
35 “No,” they replied.
36 “But now,” he said, “take your money and a traveler’s bag. And if you don’t have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one! 37 For the time has come for this prophecy about me to be fulfilled: ‘He was counted among the rebels.’ Yes, everything written about me by the prophets will come true.”
38 “Look, Lord,” they replied, “we have two swords among us.”
39 “That’s enough,” he said.

2. After the Last Supper, the disciples argued about who would be the greatest (v. 24)
   - The greatest in God’s Kingdom are those who serve (v. 25-30)
   - Jesus predicted Peter would be humbled (v. 31-34)
   - Jesus warned his followers to be prepared for opposition (v. 35-38)

3. How to Prepare for Life in God’s Kingdom
   - Act with love in the face of opposition
   - Stand together on the journey
   - Seek restoration following failures
   - Rely on God
   - Model servant leadership

Conclusion: Prepare for greatness by serving others!

REFLECT (Questions to respond to this week):
- Read Luke 22:24-38. What new insights might the Holy Spirit be revealing to you?
- What do you learn from this passage about God’s Kingdom?
- In what ways are Peter and Judas similar (see v. 1-23)? How are they different?
- Have you experienced spiritual opposition on the journey of faith?
- How have you been encouraged and supported by other believers on the journey?
- How will you apply today’s scripture and message to your daily life and ministry?

BELIEVE IT. EXPERIENCE IT. LIVE IT.