

SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD Friday, 6/17/2022 Scripture: Mark TITLE: Mark – The Servant

In your mind, who are some of the greatest leaders today? What makes them great? Is it their education? Is it the businesses or organizations they run? Is it how many followers they have on social media? Is it their family name? What is it?

According to the Bible, great leadership isn't about education, reputation, or organization. Great leadership comes down to being a servant. That is why you should read the Book of Mark.

The Book of Mark is the second book of the New Testament. It's the second Gospel record of the life of Jesus. In just 16 chapters, we find a fast and furious collection of Jesus' teaching, miracles, and acts of service.

As the title reflects, the book was written by Mark. What makes this so special is Mark was a deserter. According to Acts 15, on Paul's first missionary journey, Mark would, sadly and abruptly, abandon Paul and Barnabas as they went inland to preach the Gospel.

You may be thinking, "Wow, Nat. Why is that so important?" I love this because God used someone who had issues and would abandon Paul. This deserter would author one of the Gospels. Imagine what God can do with you!

These sixteen chapters cover three years of Jesus' life and ministry. We will follow Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem. We'll discover his sayings, signs, serving, and suffering.

What's the main thing from the Book of Mark? It's service. Greatness is not how the world defines it. It has nothing to do with how great you think you are. It has nothing to do with your things, your education, or your title. It's not about how many people you lead. It's about how many people you serve.

Mark 10:42-45 (CSB) says,

"Jesus called them over and said to them, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in high positions act as tyrants over them. But it is not so among you. On the contrary, whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you will be a slave to all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.""

Friend, to be the greatest, you must be a servant of all. Jesus Christ was and is King of the universe, yet He came to serve and suffer all the way to death on the cross. That is true greatness. And that humility is what provides the way back to God.

So here's my challenge for you today: become a servant. How can you practically show Christ to the people around you? Who is far from God that you can serve today? Who is someone in the body of Christ that needs to be shown the power of Christ in you? Find those people and get to serving. That is the example Christ displayed for us. So let's worship Him in our worship today.

When we serve others freely, they will win the day.