

# What Makes You Great In The Eyes Of God?

September 23, 2018 – Mark 9:33-37

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*“They (Jesus and His disciples) came to Capernaum. When He was in the house, He asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?” But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all.” He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.” (Mark 9:33-37)*

What type of things make a person great?

Living in the high class housing development? Having the most expensive piece of farm machinery? Having a title like CEO – Dr. – President - Pastor? Having more kids than the neighbors? Having intelligent kids, athletic kids?

The disciples of Jesus were arguing about who was the greatest? Jesus called them on the carpet and pointed out their sin filled pride.

To demonstrate His point of what makes a person great in the Kingdom of God and in the eyes of God, Jesus takes a child, a very small child, a - παιδία - paidia – stand in the midst of them, and then Jesus takes the child in His arms and says that anyone who welcomes a little child in HIS Name and the Name of His Father and becomes last and a servant of ALL, such a person is Great!

The word for servant is from the Greek term that we use for Deacon - διακονος - someone who is an attendant, who runs errands, who is a servant.

The Lord Jesus became our servant, and served us by coming into the world and taking on flesh and blood, by humbling Himself and living as a simple human being and finally by dying a common and humiliating death that a criminal dies on the cross. He became a servant of ALL, and He is Savior of All. And Christ Jesus is truly The GREATEST! AMEN.