

Fourth week of January
A disciple who humbles himself and serves others

- **Text:** Mark 9:33~37 (January 26)
- **Bottom line:** The principle of God's kingdom is to humble ourselves and serve all people.

≡ 1. Praise

(Worship and praise) "I Bless You My King"

≡ 2. Prayer

We praise and worship God the King. Give us the grace to understand how we should live in God's Word.

≡ 3. The Word

Read Mark 9:33~37 together (read the verse 3 times).

* Reading the Word over and over again in different translations will help you to deepen your understanding of the material.

<ESV>

33 And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. 35 And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." 36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, 37 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

<NASB>

33 They came to Capernaum; and when He was in the house, He began to question them: "What were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had discussed with one another which of them was the greatest. 35 And sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all." 36 And He took a child and placed him among them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, 37 "Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who sent Me."

<Word Explanation>

* Controversy: Verbal or written arguments between people with different ideas.

Understanding Text

Jesus saw His disciples arguing with each other. The disciples fought with each other, saying that they were bigger and higher. Jesus says that those who want to be first should be the lowest and serve everyone. He also says that if you are good to those who are weak like little children, you are good to Jesus.

☒ Understanding the text for leaders

Jesus foretold that He would be resurrected after He was put into the hands of men and put to death. But the disciples didn't understand what he meant. The disciples were afraid to know the truth, so they didn't want to think deeply about Jesus' words. The ignorant disciples began to argue with each other about who was the greatest, and they argued so loudly that Jesus noticed. Jesus felt the need to teach His disciples the principles of the kingdom of God once again. So when they arrived in Capernaum, he asked them what they were arguing about. The disciples were too ashamed to say anything. Jesus taught us that in the kingdom of God, we should be humble and serve others. He stood a little child in the middle and told them that the attitude toward this helpless and insignificant child was the attitude toward Jesus. He taught us that in the kingdom of God, it is important to respect and honor the weak and powerless.

4. Sharing

1) What did Jesus teach the disciples who were arguing "Who's the biggest?" (verse 35).

■ Upper grades

What did Jesus teach us about how people in God's kingdom should behave? (verse 35).

■ Lower grades

What did Jesus say should do if you want to be first? (verse 35).

☒ Question Guide

Despite the prediction of Jesus' suffering, the disciples still had a foolish argument about who was greatest. Jesus taught us the principle that in the kingdom of God - it is important to humble ourselves and serve others.

☒ Comments for Leaders

The prediction of Jesus' death was completely different from the kingdom that the disciples had imagined that the Messiah would come and fulfill. Jesus felt that they needed a fundamental change in their misconceptions about the principles of the kingdom of God. So he put the brakes on the desire to be big in their hearts, the competitive spirit to be superior to others. He taught me that in the kingdom of God, it is not a matter of overcoming someone and trampling on them and standing up to be the best, but the most important thing is to serve and serve the weak and helpless people with sincerity. At that time, children had no social presence and were looked down upon. However, in God's kingdom, it is very important to value and respect such people more.

2) Who is the one childlike person I need to serve today, and how can I serve him?

■ Upper grades

Who should I treat best in my class or in my home?

■ Lower grades

What can I do for my family and friends?

☒ Question Guide

If we look around us, there will be weak and powerless people who we pass by unintentionally. God notices those who are weak and rejoices when He sees us serving them.

☒ Comments for Leaders

A society where you have to compete with others to win doesn't value love, mercy, compassion, etc. But in the kingdom of God, it's important to show love to those who are weak and not loved. In a world where everyone wants to succeed and become great, reaching out to the weak and powerless and delivering warmth is a beautiful way to resist the values of the world and live in the kingdom of God.

☰ 5. Be grateful

I am grateful to God for correcting my wrong thoughts and guiding me to the right path through my parents and friends.

☰ 6. Prayer

God, please forgive us for not being considerate of the weak and powerless. We want to let go of our desire to be exalted. Let us have the heart to serve in the lowly places, and let us share warmth with those around us who need help.

- End the family worship service with the "The Lord's Prayer"

☰ 7. Family Mission

<Family Manito> *What to bring: notepad, pen, pocket

1. Write the name of each family member on a piece of paper and fold it up and put it in your pocket.
2. Close your eyes, pull the notes out of your pocket, and quietly check your name. When his name comes up, he pulls it out again.
3. Secretly help Manito for a week without him noticing, or prepare a gift and deliver it secretly.

Through Manito, you can freely express your love and regret that you have not been able to express before. Humbly acknowledge each other's strengths and encourage each other. The abundance of love shared in the family will flow to neighbors, friends, and co-workers.