

## MAIN POINT

*Growing up in our faith means we serve as Jesus served.*

## INTRODUCTION

Who do you admire as a great leader? What specific qualities make that person a great leader, in your opinion?

What thoughts come to mind when you hear the word “servant”? What are some common things we hear or assume about serving?

**Leaders are often motivated to serve for a variety of reasons. Obligation, fear, social acceptance, peer pressure, concern for others, and tradition can motivate leaders to serve. Christians are motivated to serve God for many of the same reasons, but serving is not optional for Christ followers. We find our motivation in how Christ has loved us. The very love that Jesus showed us on the cross requires us to serve as He served.**

## DISCUSSION

> READ MATTHEW 20:20-28.

How did Jesus serve? Is it possible to serve in a way that’s not like Jesus served? Explain.

How might fear hold us back from serving as Jesus did? Can you think of any specific examples in your own life when fear made it difficult to serve like that?

Do you think James and John (the sons of Zebedee) knew their mom was going to ask Jesus the question she did? Do you think they put her up to it? Why or why not?

What kinds of things might have been on their mind that led them to make this request for greatness?

Specifically, how do you think fear might have motivated this request?

What was the reaction of the other ten disciples when they heard about this request? What does this reaction suggest about what was in their hearts?

Have you ever felt like the other disciples? Afraid that you were going to miss out on something? How does that attitude prevent us from serving others?

How was “greatness” most commonly demonstrated or pursued in Jesus’s culture?

How is “greatness” defined in our culture today? What does Jesus say about true greatness?

Is it difficult for you to let someone else serve you? Why or why not?

What does love require when it comes to serving others and seeking greatness? How does God’s love for us affect our hearts and attitudes about serving?

## APPLICATION

How is Jesus calling you to serve like Him this week? How will you respond in order to pursue growth in that area?