

## Dealing with Our Desire for Glory and Honour (by Scotty Smith)

Mark 10:35-45

James and John's request arose from the same yearning in the heart of every man: as image-bearers of God, we long for glory—to live commendable and significant lives. We want to matter, and for good reason. Having placed Adam in the garden of Eden, God commissioned His first human son to nurture it and cause it to flourish. Like Adam, we too were designed to do substantive and enduring things with our lives. God “has put eternity into man's heart” (Eccles.3:11) - a design for relationship and impact that will outlast this life.

So we shouldn't be shocked that Jesus did not rebuke James and John, when they asked for positions of glory. The Bible commends the quest “for glory and honour” (Rom.2:7) - as long as it isn't “self-seeking” (Rom.2:8). James and John thought glory came through ruling, through elevation—sitting on either side of an enthroned Jesus. Their perspective was riddled with their fallenness, and Jesus seized the moment to teach the “Sons of Thunder” (Mark 3:17) about the true meaning of glory and how it can be attained. Glory isn't gained through ruling but through serving—by taking the lowest place, not the highest.

Like all God's sons, James and John would eventually experience glory, in the life to come (Col.3:1-4). But their most pressing need in this life wasn't for glory but for mercy. Mark underscores this truth by placing the story of blind Bartimaeus right after Jesus' encounter with James and John. Consider the contrast between the two stories: James and John, physically seeing, were spiritually blind—as revealed by their quest for greatness. Bartimaeus, physically blind, was spiritually seeing—as revealed by his cry for mercy.

But how could James and John in all their blindness, or Bartimaeus for that matter, or any of us, be granted mercy?

We receive mercy and attain true greatness, ultimately, because Jesus, who had eternal greatness, took the place of consummate lowness—becoming a servant of all (Mark 10:45). Jesus, who is eternally free, was bound to a cross, so that we who are systemically bound might be free forever. We were spiritually dead, in need of life; Jesus, the Creator of life, died the death that gives us life. We were blind, but Jesus opened our eyes, both to our need for mercy and to the means of mercy—Jesus Himself. His finished work on the cross guarantees that our present work in this world—and in the world to come—will matter forever.

As the servant love of Jesus captures us, we delight to pursue true greatness through servanthood.



12 May 2019 | Service Times: 9am & 11:30am

### Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We are a church family committed to following Jesus Christ as Lord. We do this by getting to know him through his living Word, the Bible, which is why the sermon is the key part of our Sunday services. Find out more about us at [www.slechurch.org.au](http://www.slechurch.org.au).

### This Week: Gospel of Mark— Follow the King

To follow Jesus by denying ourselves, taking up our cross, and following Him, is impossible in our own strength. But when we trust His mercy and substitutionary ransom we are helped to obey His commands



Next Sunday: Mark 11:1-26

### Today's Service

<b>Welcome and Singing</b>	O Church Arise What Grace is Mine Jerusalem
<b>Holy Communion</b>	
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Community News</b>	
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Mark 10:1-52
<b>Sermon</b>	By Pastor Steven Tran
<b>Song of Response</b>	Live for the Kingdom

### Stay Connected

- [facebook.com/slechurch](https://facebook.com/slechurch)
- [slechurch.org.au](http://slechurch.org.au)
- +61 490 760 152
- [info@slechurch.org.au](mailto:info@slechurch.org.au)
- 83 Ryans Road, St Lucia 4067

Check out [slechurch.org.au/groups](http://slechurch.org.au/groups) to find a group that you can join.

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# Say hello

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Join us for morning tea at 10:30am.  
We'd love to have a chat and get to know you better.

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## Our Pastors

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### PASTOR BEN HO

**Mobile:** +61 433 581 335

**Email:** ben.ho@slechurch.org.au

### PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

**Mobile:** +61 411 621 159

**Email:** steven.tran@slechurch.org.au

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## Financial Update

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Last Week	\$5,533.18
Weekly Required	\$5,773.00
Shortfall 2019	\$830.00

### Giving by Electronic Funds Transfer

**A/C Name:** SLE Church  
**Bank:** National Australia Bank  
**BSB:** 084-424  
**A/C No:** 396558544

SLE Church is a branch church of Chinese Christian Church Brisbane

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## Prayer Points

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**GIVE THANKS THAT OUR LORD JESUS** provided not only salvation for us through His death on the cross, but also teachings showing us how we can live lives that pleases our Heavenly Father—humbleness, even as Jesus in humility came to serve us, holiness and rejecting the pull of sin in our lives, and thinking lovingly of how our actions and desires might encourage rather than stumble our brothers and sisters in their faith. And thank Him that the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives makes healthy change not only possible, but achievable.

**GIVE THANKS FOR THE THREE AGMS** that SLE members attended or contributed to last Sunday. Give thanks for the spirit of love within and among our four CCCB Churches, and for the harmonious relationships as we all strive for the furtherance of the Gospel. Pray that God's word will be faithfully and helpfully preached and taught week by week in SLE and in each of our sister Churches.

**GIVE THANKS FOR THE VIBRANT** Bloom ministry and for the resurrection and growth of the Grunt ministry which enable SLE attendees to gather with others across generations to learn together more from God's word. Pray also for the coming Church Camp which will give us another great opportunity to display and experience our unity in Christ. Pray also that the Camp will be a great time of learning together to be more like Christ.

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## Prayer Points

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**PRAY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION** coming up on Saturday. Pray that each electorate candidates will be elected who will best express and promote values that are in harmony with holiness and protect freedom of religious belief and expression.

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## Serving

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	Today	Next Sunday
<b>Chair</b>	Mervin	Randy
<b>Prayer</b>	Mike	Randy
<b>Preach</b>	Ps Steven	Ps Ben
<b>Bible Read</b>	Andrew <i>Marilyn</i>	Ps Ben <i>Dan Lowe</i>
<b>M.Tea</b>	Genevieve, Daisy	Elaine
<b>Wash Up</b>	SOS Central	SOS West
<b>Welcome</b>	Meng Yin Dan Amy <i>James</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Mildred</i>	Meng Yin Dan Dan Amy <i>James</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Mildred</i>
<b>Stewards</b>	Jeffrey Graham Alvin <i>DT</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>	Jeffrey Graham Graham Alvin <i>DT</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>
<b>Piano</b>	Liesl	Joanna
<b>Guitar</b>	Ivan	Jabez/Mark
<b>Bass</b>	Ethan	Ivan
<b>Drums</b>	Nigel	John
<b>Vocal</b>	Hui Ming/ Sharne	Shaun/ Amanda
<b>PA</b>	William <i>Chris</i>	Matt T. <i>Stan</i>

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## 10. The Gospel of Mark—Follow the King [Mark 10:1-52]

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### Introduction

1. Can't interpret the Law (10:1-12)

2. Can't properly love God (10:17-31)

3. Can't listen to Jesus (10:13-16, 32-44)

4. Only solution (10:45-52)