

PEOPLE ON THE WAY



Today: A Mother's Request

Matthew 20 v20-28

Matthew 20 v28

.....just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

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Acts 9 v1-2

Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. ² He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.

PEOPLE ON THE WAY



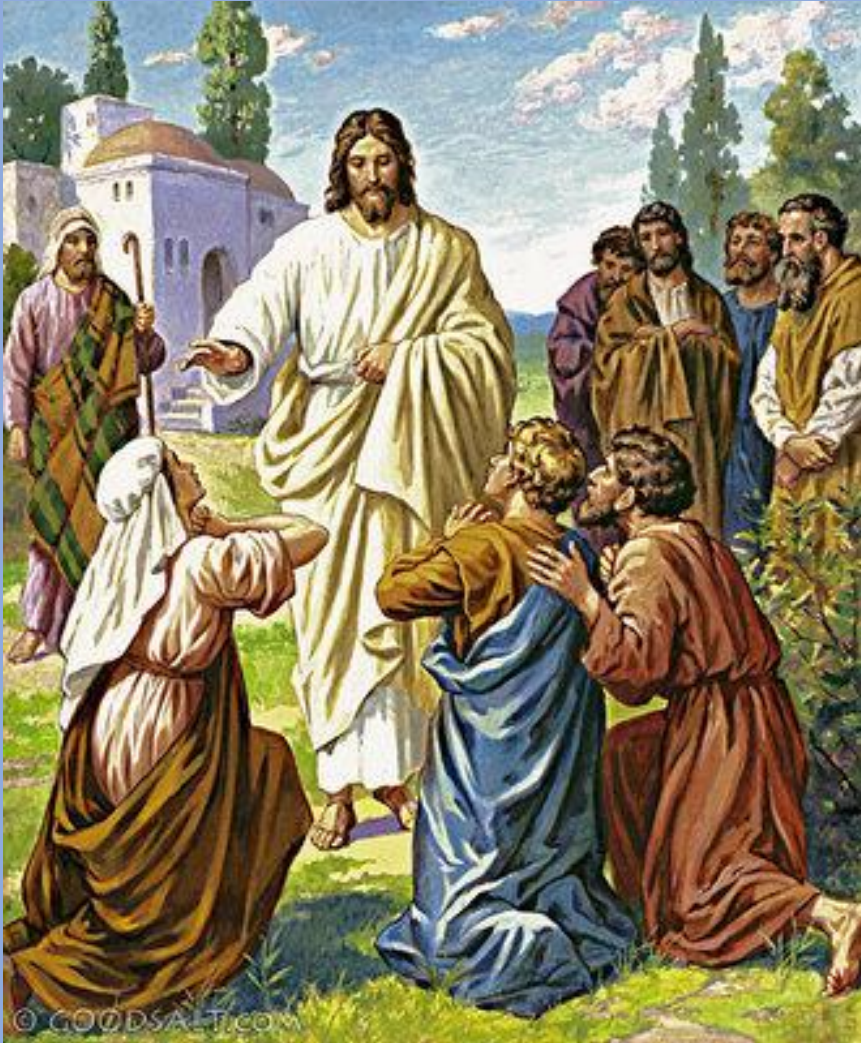
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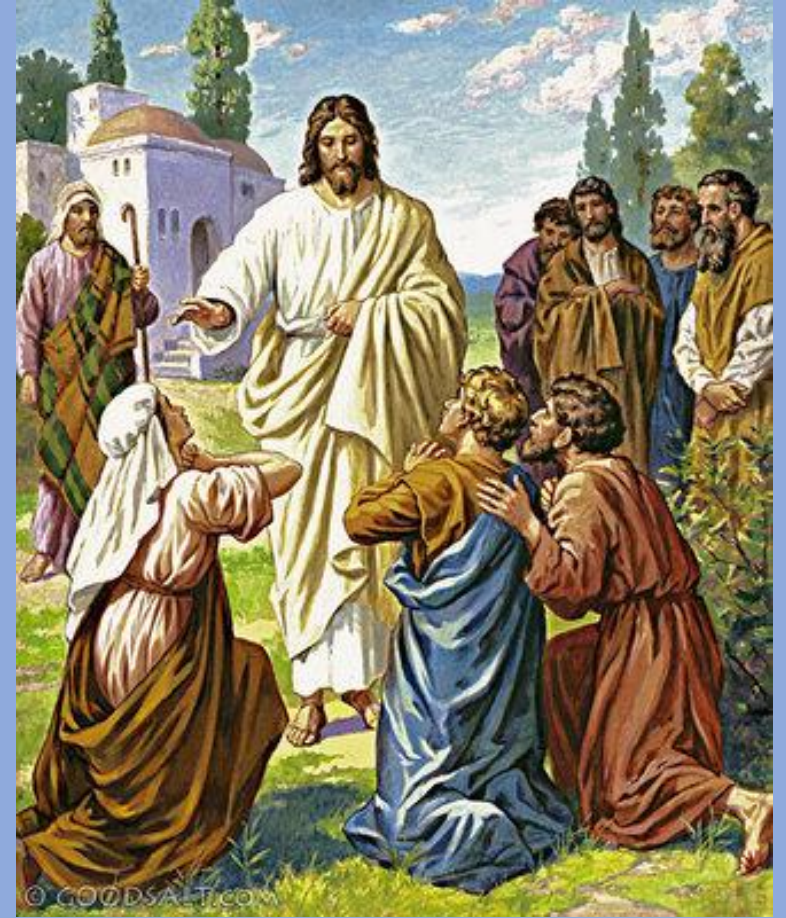
Matthew 20 v20



Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favour of him.

Matthew 20 v21

"What is it you want?" he asked. She said to him, "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom"



Background on James and John:

- **They are brothers**
- **They are part of Jesus' inner circle of three disciples - the other is Peter**
- **Jesus nicknames them “The Sons of Thunder” in Mark 3:17.**

A Samaritan Village

The people there did not welcome Jesus and *when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them.* (Luke 9 v54-55)



Background on James and John:

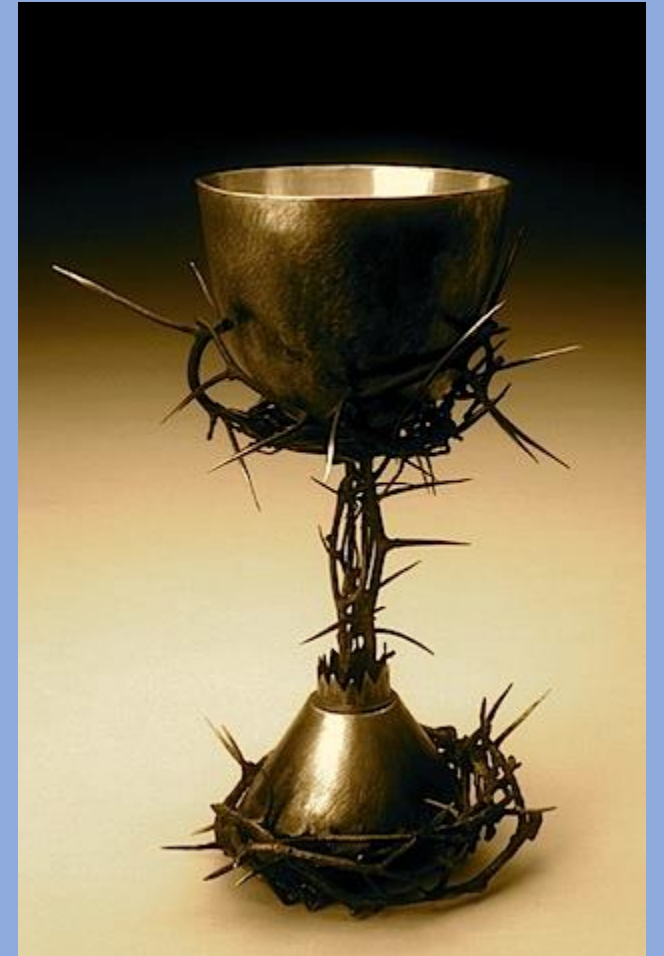
- They are fishermen – called by Jesus when they were fishing with their father Zebedee
- They fished with Peter, too (Luke 5 v10)
- James is the first apostle to be martyred for his faith (Acts 12 v2)

Background on John alone:

- **The disciple whom Jesus loved**
- **Asked by Jesus (on the cross) to care for Mary, mother of Jesus**
- **Performed healing miracles**
- **Wrote 5 books in the NT including Revelation, written in exile on the island of Patmos**

Mark 10:38

Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptised with the baptism with which I am baptised?"

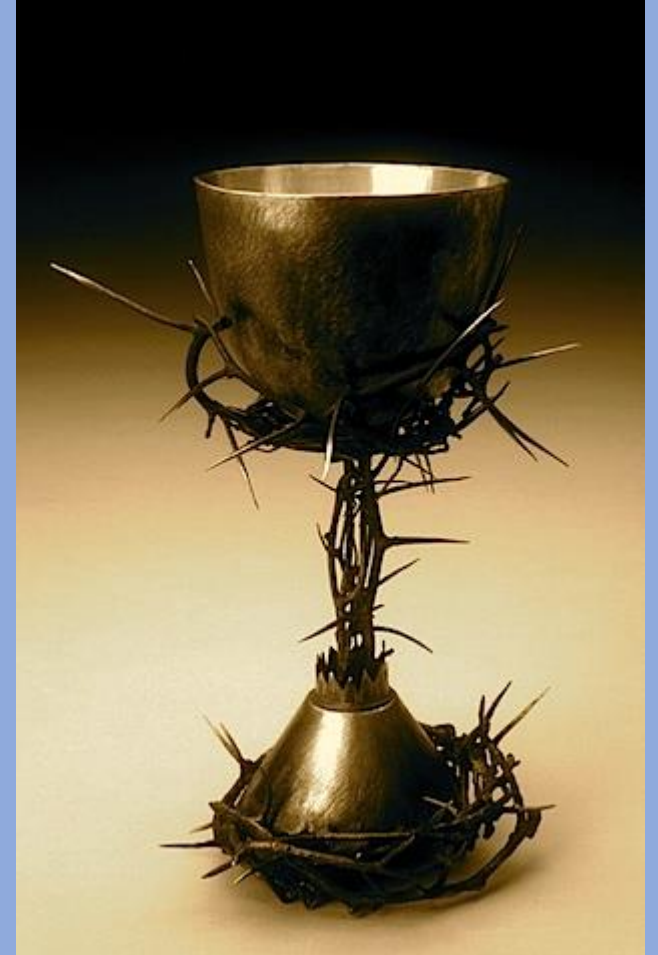


Matthew 20 v22b-23

‘We can’ they answered.

Jesus said to them, ‘you will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant.

These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father’



Matthew 20 v24

**When the ten heard about this,
they were indignant with the
two brothers.**



Matthew 20 v25

Jesus called them together and said to them, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.



Matthew 20 v26-27

Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave.



Matthew 20 v28

**- just as the Son
of Man did not
come to be
served but to
serve...**



Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Deuteronomy 17 v2:and not consider himself better than his fellow Israelites.....

Philippians 2:5-7

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Philippians 2:8-11

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

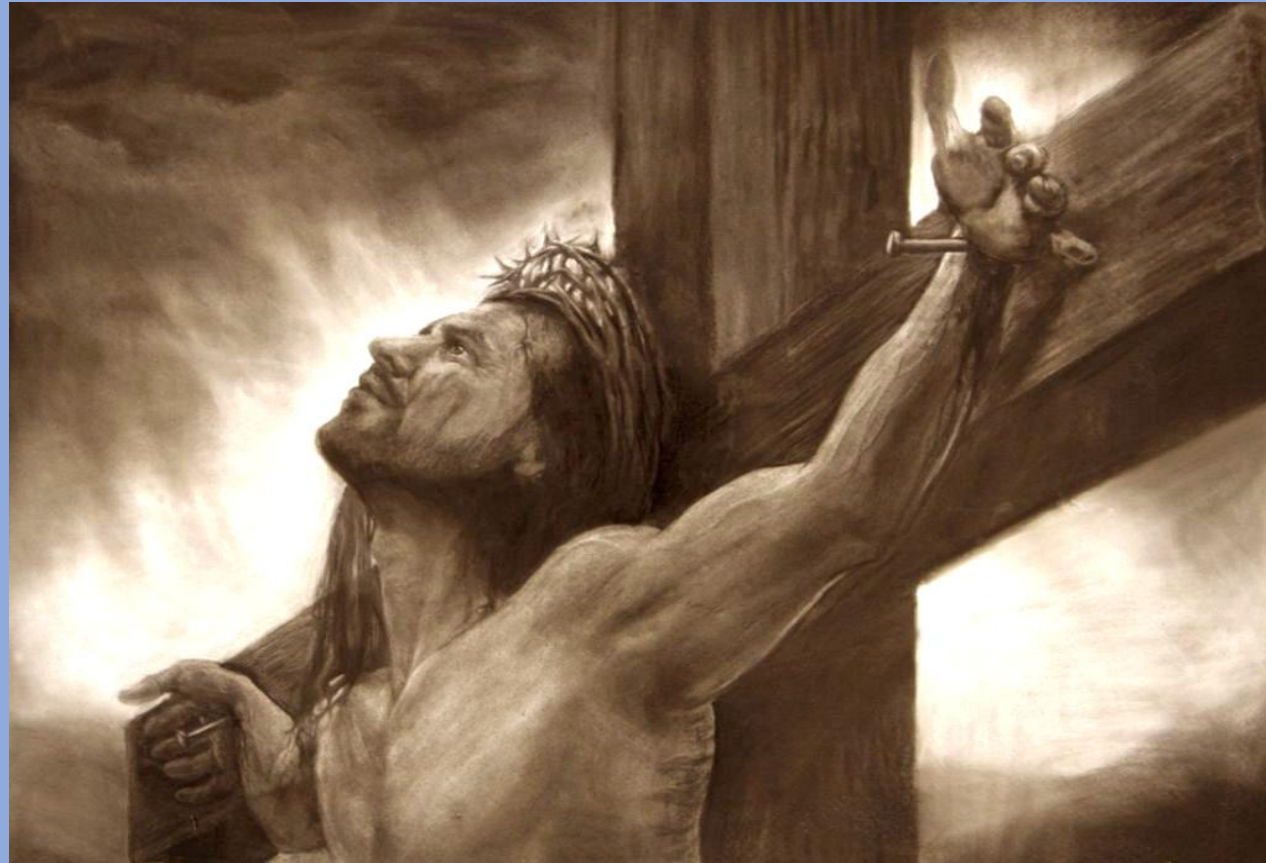
HUMILITY

IF YOU WANNA GET HIGH

YOU GOTTA GET LOW

Matthew 20 v28

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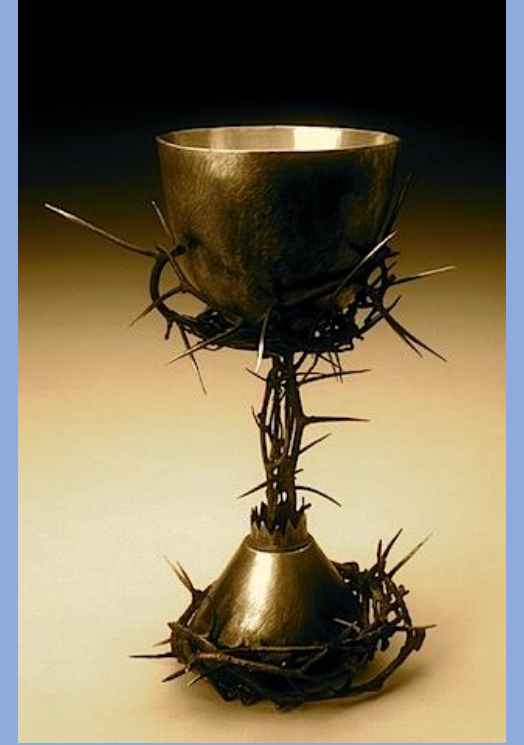


CHALLENGES FOR US?

Lofty ideas? Selfish ambitions?

Seeking recognition (see below)?

Servant or server? First or last?



Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Matt 5 v11-12)

CHALLENGES FOR US

Are you willing to drink the cup that Jesus drank, to take up your cross and to follow in the footsteps of Jesus?



HUMILITY

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