

Luke 9:46-56 (June 4, 2023)
“The Greatness of Christ”

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Luke 9:46-56

1. Consider Luke 9:1-2, 6, 10-17, 28-36 and give reasons why you the disciples were arguing over “which of them was the greatest.”

2. What did Jesus tell the disciples before they started arguing (Luke 9:43-45)? How would this information along with His illustration of a child in response to the arguing about who would be the greatest (Luke 9:46-48) redirect their misguided aspirations?

3. Compare qualities that the world esteems for greatness to the qualities valued by God. How did Christ demonstrate “greatness”? Share where you have witnessed the demonstration of “greatness” in other believers.

4. From Luke 9:48-50 what are your thoughts about John's answer to Jesus' teaching about greatness? How do believers commit the same offense towards others in different denominations?

5. "For Jesus to head from Galilee to Jerusalem in the south without a long detour, he would be required to pass through the land of the Samaritans. Relations between Jews and Samaritans were frosty at best, and Jewish travelers were often harassed as they passed through on their way to or from Jerusalem. So when Jesus sent disciples ahead to a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival, it is not surprising that they did not warmly receive a Jewish rabbi on his way to Jerusalem." (Luke 1-12 For You p.150 by Mike McKinley)

For what reasons do you think the disciples wanted to destroy the Samaritan village (2 Kings 1:10)? Have you ever wished God's judgment on those who treated you poorly? How did Jesus respond and what do you learn?

6. Answer and explain the following:

"What's wrong with being great? Nothing—and everything."
(Luke: An Expositional Commentary p, 487 by R.C. Sproul)