

# MARK 10:32-52

## OBSERVATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE SAY?

1. What does Jesus tell his disciples about his upcoming death? Compare it to the first two predictions of his death in 8:31 and 9:30-32.
2. What do James and John tell Jesus? What do they ask him? Does Jesus grant their request? What does he add to their request?
3. How did the rest of the disciples respond to the request of James and John?
4. How does Jesus tell the disciples to become great?
5. The healing of Bartimaeus is the last healing in the book of Mark. What does Bartimaeus cry out to Jesus? What does Jesus ask him (compare to 10:36)? What happens to the Bartimaeus??

## INTERPRETATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?

1. Do you think the disciples believe Jesus when he tells them of his upcoming death? Why or why not?
2. How does the request of James and John strike you? Why do they ask to sit at his right and left? What would be significant about that seating arrangement?
3. What is Jesus referring to when he talks about His "baptism" and His "cup"? How will James and John share in that?
4. Explain why it is important for Christians to be servants? You can use other passages of Scripture to support your answer (see Philippians 2:1-10). Other than Jesus, who is the "greatest" in your opinion and why?
5. Why does Bartimaeus ask for "mercy"?
6. Look up Isaiah 29:18-19 & 35:4, 5. What conclusion are we to draw from these verses connected with this last healing that Mark relates to us?

## APPLICATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN TO ME/US?

1. Are you more interested in status in God's kingdom or in being a servant in God's kingdom? What actions can you point to that back up your answer? How can you become a better servant?
2. Are you able to take on the baptism, cup, cross of Jesus in your life? What has that meant to you so far?
3. I am impressed with the enthusiasm of Bartimaeus. How anxious are you to come to Jesus with your needs? I am impressed with the persistence of Bartimaeus. What obstacles have kept you from pursuing Jesus in areas of difficulty or challenge?
4. If Jesus were to ask you: "What do you want me to do for you?", what would you ask for?

## ACTION PLAN

Spend time personally and with others in coming up with an action plan inspired by your study. What in this passage compels you to desire a change, to move to action, to become more like Jesus? It could be a change in thinking, behavior, character. It could be internal or external. It could be personal or relational. Just don't leave studying the Bible as simply an intellectual exercise.