

"WHAT KIND OF GLORY AND GRACE DO YOU WANT?"
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCTOBER 17, 2021
ISAIAH 53:4-12; MARK 10:35-45

Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.

Questions. ‘There are no bad questions,’ is a comment we hear more and more. For many of us, we sometimes can be insecure, and not even bother to ask. Asking questions is how we find out what we need to know, how we let others know what we are looking for. Of course, you must ask what you are going to do, if your question is answered, and what if you do not like the answer? Today in Mark’s reading, Jesus’ followers ask, ‘When you come into your glory, Jesus, will you grant one of us to sit at your right and one at your left?’ ‘Do you know what you are asking?’ ‘Do you really want to know the answer?’ ‘Is this really the kind of glory you want?’ It is easy for the disciples, for us, to not always know what we are asking, yet we must never stop asking the Lord of our life questions. As we continue to explore our net worth is truly in God’s grace alone, let us forever ask questions of the One who may not always have the answers we seek, yet abundantly blesses us to believe and to see Jesus is our Answer to more glory and grace than we could ever desire!

1. Questions are how we find out what we want to know.
Isaiah 53:5,6,7,8,etc; Mark 10:35-36
 - A. Sometimes we can be insecure and not even bother to ask the questions we seek answers to.
 - i. Sometimes people feel their questions are bad questions.
 - ii. Sometimes people feel they should already know the answer.
 - B. There is nothing wrong with asking. We must never stop asking questions of the Lord. Who else do you know who has all the answers, at least as many answers as there are for now?
2. Do you know what it is you want to ask? What it is you want to know? Do you know what you want? Isaiah 53:10-11; Mark 10:35-38
 - A. Sometimes we do not know what we want or what we are looking for, so we do not know how to ask.
 - B. The disciples get a bad reputation from sharing their desire and asking their question.

- i. At least they know what they want, and they ask for it.
 - ii. Perhaps in many respects, through most reflection, the disciples come off as selfish. What is wrong with wanting glory, wanting to get as close as possible?
 - C. Jesus knows what he wants. He is not afraid to ask. What's wrong with Jesus asking if we can drink the same cup, share the same baptism, be a servant of all, what kind of glory we really want, how close we really want to get, if we know our true net worth is in God's grace, if we really want to believe and see?
- 3. We must never be afraid to ask questions, especially in our spiritual walk. As we ask questions, as we hear Jesus asking us his questions, we will believe and see anew, Jesus is our Answer to more glory and grace than we could ever desire!
Isaiah 53:4-5,8,11; Mark 10:43-45
 - A. Jesus knows all there is to know about us. In asking questions, he wants to see how we see ourselves, others, and our God?
 - B. As we make God and our neighbors first, let us boldly ask what it is we really want, desire, what we long to believe and to see?
 - C. Let us never be afraid to ask Jesus if we can come closer to him, come sit with him, discover more about ourselves and our God, to believe and see even more of what God is doing, more glory and grace and life and hope than we could ever desire!