

Luke

See Jesus

Growing Down Into Greatness

Luke 22:24-34

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / March 17, 2024

Luke 22:24-34 “A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵ And He said to them, ‘The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶ But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷ For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves. ²⁸ You are those who have stayed with Me in My trials, ²⁹ and I assign to you, as My Father assigned to Me, a kingdom, ³⁰ that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ³¹ Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.’ ³³ Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, I am ready to go with You both to prison and to death.’ ³⁴ Jesus said, ‘I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know Me.’”

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord. Response: **Thanks Be To God!**

I. **Jesus descended into greatness, and so should you!**

Luke 22:25-26 “And He said to them, ‘The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶ **But not so with you.** Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, **and the leader as one who serves.**”

A. Godly leaders lead differently than worldly leaders.

a. Pastors are to shepherd the flock, not drive the herd.

1 Peter 5:3 “...not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.”

b. Husbands should sacrificially love, not selfishly subjugate.

Ephesians 5:25 “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and **gave Himself up for her...**”

c. Fathers should bring up their children, not put them down.

Ephesians 6:4 “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

d. Christians should be winsome, not worldly.

2 Timothy 2:24-26 “And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but **kind to everyone**, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, ²⁵ **correcting his opponents with gentleness**. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.”

II. Jesus persevered through trials, and so can you!

Luke 22:28-30 “You are those who have stayed with Me in My trials, ²⁹ and I assign to you, as My Father assigned to Me, a kingdom, ³⁰ that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

Hebrews 10:35-36 “Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, **so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.**”

III. Jesus wasn’t done with Peter, and He’s not done with you!

Luke 22:31-34 “‘Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.’ ³³ Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, I am ready to go with You both to prison and to death.’ ³⁴ Jesus said, ‘I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know Me.’”

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. Who do you think is a good example of a servant-leader?
2. Why is it helpful to differentiate between subjugation and submission?
3. How is meekness different from weakness?
4. When are you tempted to believe God is “done” with you? When are you tempted to believe God is “done” with someone else?
5. Pastor Peter said, “Your story is still being written.” Why is that good news?