



Week 4 (January 29 – February 4): Lesson Guide

Open in prayer

Welcome/Introductions

Recall the guidelines together. Ask: "What is the purpose of the guidelines?" Answer: To be relational!

Hook Question: Can you share a time someone went above and beyond to serve you? How did it effect you?

Ask a group member to retell last week's story (*Diotrephes' rebellion*).

Ask someone from your team to read or tell the following background for the story:

As we wrap up our lessons on *The Local Church*, we will finish with a closer look at the impact that any team member's self-centeredness or greatness complex has on the rest of the team.

James and John were brothers, and they were two of the twelve disciples in Jesus' close-knit group. While Jesus may have been a perfect leader, the disciples were imperfect men, which means they had an imperfect group just like ours. Towards the end of Jesus' ministry, the disciples and Jesus were traveling on a road from Galilee to Jerusalem where Jesus would be crucified. Jesus was trying to help them understand what was about to happen, but the disciples still believed that Jesus was going to set up a powerful kingdom on the earth. They didn't understand that His Kingdom was not of this world, and that His plans for salvation for humanity were far bigger than they could realize at that moment. In the story, James and John asked Jesus if they could sit at His right and His left hand in the new kingdom. This was a power play on their part, and an effort to rise above the other twelve disciples in the group. Carefully note how this power play impacted the group, and what Jesus taught them. This is where our story begins...

Tell the story from Mark 10:35-45

Rebuild the story – (*group members retell the story based on what they remember*)

Read Mark 10:35-45– (*ask the group to read these verses*)

Discuss these questions:

Head
Questions:
Quicker
tempo.

- What do you like or dislike about this story? What stands out to you?
- What does this story teach us about people?
- What does this story teach us about God? (Remember, Jesus is God.)

Heart Questions:
Slow down & wait!

- Who do you relate to in this story? Why?
- Is there anything you need to confess to our team or seek forgiveness for from our team?

Action
Lines

- Is there someone our team could work together to serve this week?
- Practice sharing Jesus! Who can retell this week's Bible story to our group?

Series Memory Verse: 1 Peter 3:8 - Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

Ask for a volunteer to tell the Bible story next week.

Prayer: Spend time in prayer. Ask people to limit their prayer request to their own personal needs.