

# Mark 10:35-45

8<sup>th</sup> February 2009

The kingdom of God is completely different from the kingdoms of the world. Indeed, it is their opposite. And that's what makes it so precious.

This week Mark rolls out the kingdom of God in all its contrarian beauty. May we be overwhelmed by its power! May we be advocates of its agenda! May we adore and follow its radical new King!

Enjoy this passage. Read it thoughtfully and work through the following questions.

- 1) If Jesus were to ask you the question he asked James and John in verse 36 – ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ – how would you respond? Why did you give the answer you did?
  
- 2) What is the nature of the ‘cup’ and ‘baptism’ that, according to Jesus, James and John would share with him? See verses 38-40. Are you drinking the same cup, and being baptized with the same baptism? Explain.
  
- 3) What does it mean that ‘the Gentiles lord it over them’? (verse 42) Explain the following sentence: ‘whoever would be great among you must be your servant’ (verse 43)
  
- 4) In your own words, how would you describe the way of the Son of Man in verse 45? Are you serving in your world as Christ served in his? Give examples.
  
- 5) Why is this kind of Christ-like service difficult for you? How might you improve at serving as Christ did?