



# Daily Reflections

## October 21, 2018

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### Scripture

#### **Mark 10: 35-45**

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

He replied, "What do you wish me to do for you?"

They answered him, "Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left."

Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking.

Can you drink the cup that I drink

or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"

They said to him, "We can."

Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they became indignant at James and John.

Jesus summoned them and said to them,

"You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them,

and their great ones make their authority over them felt.

But it shall not be so among you.

Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.

For the Son of Man did not come to be served

but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Today's Gospel reading illustrates quite well why pride is the root of all other sins. Jesus had just forecasted His horrible passion and death when James and John arrogantly approach and ask for positions of honor in His Kingdom. Jesus responds by warning them: "You do not know what you are asking." When will they learn? After Jesus' death and resurrection and when they themselves experience a martyr's death. Once again, we can hear in Jesus' words an echo of His Father's words through the Prophet Isaiah, "My ways are not your ways; My thoughts are not your thoughts." (Isaiah 55: 8-9). To be great in God's Kingdom, one must become the least.

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## **Food for your Journey**

There is an old story about a young boy who consistently disobeyed his parents, coming home late from school. On one particular day, his parents warned him that he must come home on time that day, at all costs, or else there would be serious repercussions. The boy arrived later than ever.

As he walked through the door, neither his mother nor his father said a word to him. At dinner, the boy looked down at his plate and saw only a slice of bread and a glass of water. He looked at his father's full plate and then at his father, but still his father said nothing. Without a word, the father took his son's plate and placed it in front of himself. Then, he took his own plate full of food, set it in front of the boy, and smiled at him.

No words were exchanged, but years later the son recalled: "All my life I've known what God is like by what my father did that night."

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, I pray for the gift of humility. I must learn that the way of pride and arrogance have no place in Your Kingdom. May I learn to put You at the center of my life and others before myself. Amen