

PEACE MAKERS

Sermon Notes Continued...

Part 1: *The White Elephant In The Room*

APPETIZER: State Of The Union

Write your questions and comments here and share them at our upcoming annual Home Church tours...

DINE IN: The Power of Love -VS- The Love of Power

Mark 10:42-45

Today we're talking about "white supremacy," not as an evil movement within our society (e.g., the KKK), but as an integral part of the movement that started our society in the first place. Canada as we know it exists because European people saw themselves as dominant and deserving of power over others. Colonization, militarization, and a satanic understanding of power fueled the founding of our country. That's how it is with earthly kingdoms. But with the teaching and example of Jesus, and the help of the Holy Spirit, we can live as citizens and ambassadors of another kingdom – the kingdom of God.

TAKE OUT: First Steps Toward Change

- PRAY for a genuine desire to learn and grow together.
- ASK to hear the stories of people who aren't like you.
- LISTEN closely and honour them with your attention.
- REPENT – that is, change your way of thinking as God enables.
- SERVE their needs, loving others as you would want to be loved.
- INVITE them to participate in and influence our shared experience and expression of God's Kingdom culture.

NEXT WEEK:

Peacemakers continues with special guest Osheta Moore!

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. What are you most and/or least looking forward to in this series?
2. After reviewing Sunday's message, talk about what most interested, excited, or perplexed you.

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read **Mark 10:35-45**.
 - a. What verse or idea stands out to you?
 - b. It seems that James and John had a "God helps those who help themselves" mentality. They were "just looking out for number one." Talk about how their attitude can be seen in Western culture throughout history and today.
 - c. What do you think is the "cup" that Jesus said they all would drink? Wrath? Suffering? Something else?
 - d. James and John in their lust for power had created a severe division among the disciples. How does Jesus heal this division?
 - e. The "Gentiles" Jesus refers to in verse 42 would have been the Romans, who had taken over the land of Israel for their own gain. Jesus is telling powerless Jewish disciples not to clamour for power, not to be like them. What do you think Jesus would say to disciples who *have* power, like the Romans then, and like most of us today?
 - f. How is Jesus' death like a ransom?

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

4. Review verses 42-44. What would serving others like Jesus look like in your current relationships? What can you do this week to move in this direction? Pray for each other about this.

Quotes

This year's Peacemaking series will be focusing on racial reconciliation. This is about more than loving people who look different than us. It is about understanding how power and privilege can benefit some people more than others, and Christ's call to choose the way of servant-hearted love.

Jesus has something to say to his disciples about the use and abuse of power...

"You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.

Not so with you.

Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

~ Jesus