

MARK 10:35-45:

In this story James and John are trying to arrange to make themselves more important than the other disciples when Jesus ascends his royal throne.

They are being a bit sneaky. Perhaps they felt that being cousins of Jesus gave them the right to be a bit bolder.

Maybe they felt that, by telling Jesus that they knew that he would have a royal throne, they were showing themselves worthy of special consideration.....in some situations, flattery will get you everything!

Jesus didn't shame James and John. He did try to put what they were asking into perspective, by asking them if they could face what he would face. They readily agreed that they could, and would.

However, James and John had no real idea of what Jesus would face, and what they were committing themselves to.

Jesus was able to share that he had no say over who would sit beside him when he ascended his throne. His role was one of obedience to God; it was God who did the choosing, and deciding.

The other disciples were understandably upset with James and John when they heard about the request they had made. They each felt that they were important too, and didn't like the thought of being overlooked, or pushed to one side.

It seems that Jesus was surrounded by men who had begun to see themselves as important people - because they were disciples of Jesus. Jesus had a difficult task in front of him - to try and let the disciples know that following him didn't lead to glory - it led to serving others. It was a lesson which Jesus was still trying to pass on the last night of his life - when he washed his disciples' feet.

In a way, it's comforting to realise that the disciples often got things wrong - even though they were spending lots of time with Jesus himself.

It's OK for us to get things wrong too. Jesus is always ready to pick us up, dust us off, and help us to move forward once more..... because he still loves us, and he wants to help us to be his true followers.

~Blessings from Meg

Mark 10:35-45 (NIV)

The Request of James and John

³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

³⁶ "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

³⁷ They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

³⁸ "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

³⁹ "We can," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."

⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John.

⁴² Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.

⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.

⁴⁵ 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."

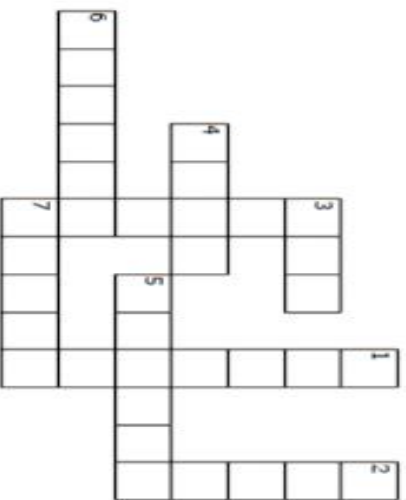
It's OK to talk to yourself,
it's even OK to answer
yourself... But when you
ask yourself to repeat what
you just said - you have
a problem!



To Be Like Jesus

"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." Mark 10:45 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Mark 10:35-45



ACROSS

3. To occupy a chair
4. The direction that is the opposite of right
5. to be in front; to be first
6. A special chair used by a king or queen
7. The direction that is the opposite of left

DOWN

1. A person who works for another person
2. To do something to help someone, often after they ask you to do it
3. To feel physical or mental pain

F I R S T E A R M O S B Q L A
 F D H I L Q E F W H K W K M W
 S E S H E F D Y F A V O R U V
 G Q L P F W L R G L P U G X E
 R N Y U T L X U I R D M U S Y
 E L S K W F E L W R G O B E R
 A T H H A C O E A X L M R R Y
 T J H O S L L R M K O V L V L
 Z D T R N D I E W K R Z T A I
 G Y H G O O Y W A C Y J B N H
 S R F W E N R Q P D F W K T I
 A I Y Y K A E Q X L E T J N A
 O G T B J X B R H Y A R Q Y R
 M H J D H J P X Q O P C L T F
 Y T S L A V E R M B O S E Y A

SERVANT	SUFFER	THRONE	RULER	HONOR
FAVOR	SLAVE	GREAT	GLORY	LEADER
FIRST	SIT	RIGHT	LEFT	PLACE