

## Dear Families:

Today we continued our study of the Gospel of Mark. Jesus was trying to explain to His disciples that He was to be betrayed, killed and would rise again after three days. His disciples were very confused- what Jesus was saying made no sense to them. That's not what the Messiah was foretold to do. And who would rise from the dead after several days? After Jesus' scolding of Peter last week on the same topic, the disciples were too afraid to ask!

Jesus then went on to ask them what they had been discussing as they had been walking. Again they were silent, for they were too ashamed to admit that they had been talking about which one of them was the greatest. Jesus sat them down and explained that if they really wanted to be first, they should be the last of all- the servant of all. Jesus then took a child in His arms, and explained that whoever receives a little child in His name receives Jesus Himself, as well as the God who sent Him.

Sometimes we get so concerned on success and being ahead, that we forget that Jesus wants us to be the last. Not to "lose," but to choose to put all others before ourselves. We have been called to be servants for Christ. And by humbling ourselves to the lowest we will receive the love of Jesus. What better prize could there be than that?

I know it seems early, but the class has already begun making plans for this year's Christmas Pageant. They have once again decided to write their own, and have a great idea in mind! We hope you can participate- please join us!

Thank you for being with us today!

Carol McClellan, CE Director