



Mother's Day 2009

## What Every Mom Should Want for Her Children

Matthew 20:20-28

### Introduction:

Mom, what do you want most for your children?

### Focus Principle:

God expects us to **pursue** true **greatness** for our children!

### Key Thoughts:

Key Thought #1 - There is a kind of greatness that we must diligently avoid pursuing for our children.

This kind of greatness is . . .

Marked by a "**ruler mentality**." (vs.25)

Typical in a **secular context**. (vs.25)

**Key Principle:** *The kind of greatness that Jesus encourages His followers to pursue is unlike the kind of greatness that is commonly admired in society.*

Key Thought #2 - There is a kind of greatness that we must unashamedly pursue for our children.

This kind of greatness is . . .

Marked by a spirit of service. (vs.26)

Key Principle: *True greatness is found not by living for what others can do for me, but by living for what I can do for others.*

Most clearly **exemplified** by **Christ** Himself. (vs.28)

Key Principle: *True greatness is essentially Christ-likeness.*

Frequently attained on the **path** of **suffering** (vs.22-23)

Key Principle: *True greatness cannot be attained when suffering is avoided at ANY cost.*

### Apply It!

In the context of this message, there are three things a mom (parent) can pursue for her children:

1. **Mediocrity**
2. **Temporal Greatness** (Fool's Gold Greatness)
3. True Greatness

How do I encourage my children to pursue true greatness?

1. We must **model** true greatness.
2. We must **pray** for true greatness.
3. We must **teach** true greatness.