

The Gospel of Matthew #105

THE HARDEST LESSON

Matthew 20:17-34

I. The **Prompt** (v17-24)

20:1-16 illustration of grace and how we abuse it

20:17-19 The paramount illustration of Grace

20:20-23 egregious abuse of what He just illustrated!
(reasonable inference of Mt 27:56; Mk 15:40; Jn 19:25
that this mother was Jesus' aunt Salome; her request
based on Mt 19:28: special family favor for His cousins!)

20:24 the rest are just as bad! Indignant—because they
beat to the punch

II. The **Principle** (v25-28)

A. The **contrast** of Kingdom greatness with the world
Progression: great: **servant** → first: **slave**

B. The **comparison**: Son of Man
Serve → **ransom!**

III. **His practice**

- Stops and heals two blind beggars who others see as an annoyance (v29-34)
- Next: enters Jerusalem as King—on a donkey! (21:1-17)
- He washes the disciples' feet (John 13:1-17)
- He gives His life as a ransom for us (Mt 26:28)

IV. **Our practice**

The need to think often about His service & sacrifice
Cherish the humility of Jesus

A. _____ servanthood

How can you take initiative to serve those in your world
that you take for granted or easily ignore?

One thing I can do this week to be more like Jesus:

B. _____ servanthood

How do you respond when you are **treated** like a
servant?

One way God tests my servant attitude is: