

Today's Message

Date: July 24, 2022

Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas

Title: Living Like the Kingdom Is Our Home

Text: Luke 22:24–30 (ESV)

A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵ And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶ But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷ For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves. ²⁸ "You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, ²⁹ and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, ³⁰ that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Introduction: The scene is still the upper room where Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples. The blessings of hindsight deepens the offensiveness of what we see: the disciples bickered with a spirit of contentious rivalry, vying for position in the Kingdom. Ironically, they had missed the example of their Leader who presented them with the ultimate symbols of humility: the bread and the cup. Jesus did not chide them but called them away from the world's values. Instead, he called them to embrace servant-leadership. This is the path for citizens of his future kingdom.

Today's take-home truth: Do not pursue self-promotion as the pagans do, but humbly serve others and Jesus will reward you in due time.

I. Jesus forbids proud rivalry among his followers. 24

II. Instead, Jesus requires his followers to serve others with humility. 25-27

- A. Jesus requires his followers to reject the practices and motives of pagan leadership. 25-26a
- B. Jesus calls his followers to embrace humble service. 26b
- C. Jesus sets the example his followers must follow. 27

III. Jesus promises great reward to those who serve him thus. 28-30

- A. Jesus' promises belong to those who persevere with him. 28
- B. For them, Jesus secures them a place in his future kingdom. 29
- C. To them, Jesus promises the blessings of fellowship: 30
 - 1. The fellowship of his presence.
 - 2. The fellowship of his reign.