



Mark 10:32–52 **Lesson 16**

Jesus and the disciples are on the road headed straight for Jerusalem, the city that stoned the prophets and killed those sent by God (Matthew 23:37). The Lord knew His earthly pilgrimage was drawing to a close. There is an obvious purpose and resolution about Him, and those who followed sensed it and were awed by it.

Pondering the Passage:

1. Prayerfully read verses 32–52. As you do, write out any key words or phrases you find in the text. Typically a key word or phrase helps us understand the main thought of the text.
2. What thought/lesson in these verses is personally meaningful to you?
3. Is there anything here that is difficult or hard to understand? If so, write it out. As you finish the study and group time, write out what you learned or discovered.

The Prediction: Mark 10:32–34

These verses give us a graphic picture of what will soon take place in the life of our Lord as He comes to Jerusalem.

4. What stands out to you in this passage?
 - a. Try to imagine and then describe the disciples' emotions during this prediction.

5. From verse 33, Jesus reveals seven things that will happen to Him. Write them out here:

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Bringing it into Focus:

Just for a moment, close your eyes and try to picture yourself as a witness to these horrific events. What are your feelings as you do so? Now consider that He endured all of this...for you! How do you respond to that fact? Take a moment to write out a prayer of worship and thanksgiving:

The good news is that the story does not end with Christ’s suffering. He rose again and we can live for Him today and with Him forever.

The Presumption: Mark 10:35–45

With a steady pace up to Jerusalem, Jesus now graphically addresses the attitude of servant hood. Time is slipping away and the disciples continue to vie for position within their own ranks. Jesus is going to set them straight on true greatness in the kingdom of God.

6. After reading verses 35–45, who came to Jesus with a request?
- a. What did they ask?

 - b. How does their question give us insight into the heart/motive of these men?

7. Why do you think the other disciples were indignant over their request?
 - a. How might you have reacted to such a question?
 - b. By contrast, how does Jesus respond?

8. Why did Jesus say He couldn't grant their request?
 - a. Jesus explains the difference between an earthly kingdom and God's Kingdom. In your own words, try to explain this difference.

9. What specific lesson about servant hood was Jesus teaching in this text?
 - a. Do you think James and John understood what it meant to be a follower of Jesus Christ and what that would entail?
 - b. Is there anything about Jesus' teaching on servant hood here that you don't understand or have difficulty understanding?

10. The concept of being a servant is one of the fundamental truths in Christianity. Let's delve a little deeper into this truth. Look up the following verses and write out how this passage develops this idea which Jesus Himself modeled.

John 13:14

John 15:13

Philippians 2:3

Philippians 2:5–8

Galatians 5:13

1 Peter 5:5

The desire for great things is deeply implanted in all our hearts. To whom has it not occasioned a fall! Upward, upward, each one presses, forgetting that the Word of Truth says, 'He that humbleth himself shall be exalted.' How much less is our spiritual danger if we remain in a lowly condition.
A. Tholuck

11. Verse 45 is really the theme verse for the Gospel of Mark. How does this verse reveal our Lord's mission on earth?
12. Did this definition of the Messiah line up with the disciples' perception of the Messiah? Why or why not?

Bringing it into Focus:

Are you willing to walk the path that Jesus walked? Are you willing to give sacrificially to help others see and know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior? If so, how will you do that?

The Pleading: Mark 10:46–52

Moving on in His journey to Jerusalem, verses 46–52 we find the healing of a blind man, the final event leading up to Passion Week.

13. Where did Jesus meet Bartimaeus?
 - a. How does Bartimaeus get the Lord's attention?
 - b. What can we learn about the persistence of this dear man?
14. Describe your normal response to opposition. Do you shrink from it or does it make you more determined? Have you ever had people try to dissuade you from something you knew the Lord was calling you to? How did you handle it?

15. Before healing him, Jesus asks him a question. What is it?

a. Does this query strike you as odd? Why or why not?

16. Is there something in your life about which you need to cry out to Jesus? Can you sense Him asking, *What do you want Me to do for you?* Beloved...cry out to Him and trust Him!

17. What did Bartimaeus do when he received his sight?

18. The Bible is full of wondrous and glorious displays of faith. Take a brief look at a few of those, in the following verses. Look up the verse and record whose faith is being discussed and what happened. Try to add at least one more to the end of the list.

Verse	Person	Event
Joshua 10:12–13		
1 Samuel 17:37		
Matthew 9:23–25		
Hebrews 11:7		

Let's take a short 'breather' as we come to the end of chapter 10. Our journey with Jesus is about to take a sharp turn as we lead up to our Lord's suffering and death, then His glorious resurrection and ascension. As you mentally review the 'photo album' of your trip, which 'snapshots' of Jesus as our Servant-Savior stand out to you? Which have been most surprising, and which have you most relished and absorbed? How have you personally grown as you have spent time studying the life of our dear Lord?