TRUE GREATNESS

Mark 9:33-10:16

Key Verse: 9:35

\* A TRULY GREAT MAN IS ONE WHO SERVES (9:33-37)

1. Read verses 33-34. To where did Jesus and the disciples come? Where were they going? What was Jesus talking with them about on the road? (30-32)

2. What had the disciples been arguing about on the road? What did Jesus ask them and why did they not answer? Why do men struggle to be the greatest? (Ge 1:27,28)

3. Read verse 35. What did Jesus teach about the way to be truly great? How does Moses reveal this greatness? (Nu 12:3) Paul? (1Co 15:9,10) How does Jesus him­self personify greatness? Why must we learn Jesus' humility? (Ja 4:6)

4. Read verses 35-37. What does it mean to be "servant of all"? How did Jesus illus­trate this? What does it mean to welcome a child in Jesus' name?

\* A TRULY GREAT MAN MUST BE BROAD-MINDED (9:38-41)

5. What did John report to Jesus? (38) What did Jesus teach him in verse 39? What was John's problem? What principle does Jesus teach here? (Read verses 39-41). What can we learn here about how to overcome narrow-mindedness?

\* A TRULY GREAT MAN BUILDS UP NEW CHRISTIANS (9:42-50)

6. Read verse 42. What does this teach about the sense of responsibility which a Chris­tian should have for new believers? How does Jesus emphasize the seri­ous­ness of causing another to sin? Why can one who causes another to sin not be a great man or woman?

7. Read verses 43-48. According to Jesus, how serious is it for a Christian to give in to his sinful desires and commit a sin? What must one who wants to be great do about temp­tations to sin? (Does cutting off one's hand or plucking out one's eye solve the prob­lem?)

8. Read verses 49-50. What does it mean to be a salty Christian? How can we be salty? Why must we be salty, and also encourage others to be salty?

\* A TRULY GREAT MAN DOES NOT MAKE USE OF THE LAW (10:1-12)

9. How did the Pharisees try to make use of the law? How did they try to put Jesus on the spot? What did Moses teach about divorce and why did he make such a rule? (10:1-5)

10. Read 10:6-9. What did Jesus teach about marriage? What was his basis? What does Jesus' teaching imply about people's deep motive for divorce? Why can such a person not be great?

\* A TRULY GREAT MAN IS LIKE THE LITTLE CHILDREN (10:13-16)

11. What made Jesus indignant? What did he teach his disciples? What does it mean that Jesus blessed the children? What are the characteristics of children that we must emulate in order to enter the kingdom of God?