



# The Way up Is Down

Week of March 19-25

*This sermon study is designed to be used the week after the sermon it supplements. Before using the study in your life group, it might be helpful to work through the questions on your own before your group meets. The purpose of this guide is to help facilitate discussion and to help your group, collectively and individually, grow closer to Jesus.*

## SERIES RECAP

When Jesus came, He initiated a whole new way of living that went against many of the cultural rules that existed in His day. Jesus was the ultimate rule breaker! Jesus showed us how to truly LOVE our neighbors.

## SERMON SUMMARY

All through our lives we are taught to strive for more, to be greater, to win, to be the star. Jesus taught his disciples a different approach to being the greatest.

## MAIN TEXT

Luke 9:46-48, James 4:6, Matthew 20:20-28, Romans 12:1, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.

## GETTING STARTED

Have you ever been the best at something? How did that make you feel? How about if you were second best? Did you try harder?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Luke 9:46-48.
2. Why does Jesus use an illustration of a little child?
3. When Jesus said, "Whoever is the least among you is the greatest," what do you think was the reaction of the disciples?
4. Read James 4:6.
5. What does that mean? Isn't that against everything we're taught?
6. Read Matthew 20:20-28.
7. Can you imagine your mom showing up at work and asking for a raise for you? How do you think James and John felt?
8. What was the reaction of the other disciples?
9. Read Romans 12:1.

10. In the Old Testament worship was all about sacrifice. Here we find a different definition of worship. What is it?

11. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.

12. How do you approach your weaknesses? Do you see them as a way to show God's strength? Why or why not?

13. What is God asking you to do?

## NEXT STEPS

It has been said, "Doing what you like and are passionate about is ministry; doing what is needed is service." How can you begin today to serve others?

## DISCIPLESHIP STORY

### THIS WEEK

Week of March 19- 25 The Sheep and Goats –  
Matthew 25:31-46

1. For both groups, Jesus uses himself as the reason for their acceptance or denial. Why?
2. Do you feel you are a sheep or a goat? Why?
3. What group do you think Jesus would place you? Why?
4. When you see someone begging along the road, what is your reaction? Why?
5. Do those people apply in this story?
6. What did you learn about man in this story?
7. What did you learn about God in this story?
8. What does God want you to do?

## DISCIPLESHIP STORY NEXT WEEK

TBD