

**God's Way to Greatness**  
**Mark 9:30-41**

**Prediction: Jesus again foretells His upcoming fate, 7:30-31**

- ❖ This = 2<sup>nd</sup> of three times Jesus predicts His fate, 8:31, 10:32-24.
- ❖ *Handed over* is a divine passive, Acts 2:23, Ro. 8:32, but 3:19.

**Reaction: the 12 are confused and comparing themselves, 32-34**

- ❖ Why the fear to question Jesus and the later silence, 3:4, 8:33?
- ❖ Why is greatness a great goal, Matt. 5:19, 19:27-29, 25:21?

**Lesson: Jesus again offers a spiritual paradox, 35-37**

- ❖ Each lesson after a prediction has a paradox, 8:35, 10:43,44.  
*Being first = greatest / being last = being a servant*  
cf. Matt. 19:30, 20:16, 23:11,12, 25:40, Lk. 13:30, 14:11, 22:26.
- ❖ Embracing a child illustrates a humble concern for the “lowly”;  
but 10:15 & Matt. 18:3 use a child to illustrate how to behave.

**Inflated egos and an independent exorcist, 38-41**

- ❖ Why is this guy an unfounded concern, 3:23, Lk. 11:17-23?
- ❖ See Num. 11:26-29 for a similar ministry rivalry.



Are you aiming  
high (greatness)  
in your Christian  
life?

Do you sense you  
are doing a good  
job at being a  
humble servant?  
Don't forget  
about I Pt. 5:5,6