

Leader Guide

What Could be Written About You?

Winter 2026 | Week 5

Message Date 2/8/2026

THE GOAL

The goal this week is to help our group wrestle honestly with areas of our life where we don't completely follow Jesus. Using Jesus' teaching on greatness in Luke 9 and Mark 10, we will examine our motives, our desire for recognition, and whether we are willing to put in the daily work of humility, service, and obedience—even if no one ever notices. By the end of the discussion, group members should be encouraged to pursue a deeper walk with Jesus. Our goal should be faithfulness over fame and devotion over visibility.

MY STORY

- 1) If your life had a highlight reel like a sports broadcast, what's one totally unimpressive moment that would make the cut?
- 2) What's something you've worked really hard at that very few people actually know about?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME

Luke 9:46–48 (NLT)

⁴⁶Then his disciples began arguing about which of them was the greatest.

⁴⁷But Jesus knew their thoughts, so he brought a little child to his side.

⁴⁸Then he said to them, "Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me also welcomes my Father who sent me. Whoever is the least among you is the greatest."

- 4) Why were the disciples arguing about greatness, and what does this reveal about their hearts?

They were still measuring greatness by visibility, status, and recognition. Even while walking with Jesus, their hearts were shaped by comparison and competition.

5) How does Jesus completely redefine what it means to be great?
Jesus flips greatness upside down. In God's Kingdom, humility, innocence, and trust matter more than recognition. The least is not overlooked by God—the least is honored by Him.

6) Why do you think Jesus used a child as His illustration?
A child represents humility, dependence, innocence, and trust. Jesus is showing that greatness comes from reliance on God, not self-promotion.

Matthew 6:5–6 (NLT)

⁵*“When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get.*

⁶*But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.”*

7) What warning is Jesus giving about our spiritual motives?
Jesus warns that it's possible to do the right spiritual activities with the wrong heart. If being seen is the goal, human recognition becomes the reward.

8) Why does God place such value on what is done in secret?
Because what we do in secret reveals who we truly are. God values faithfulness over performance and devotion over visibility.

Mark 10:42–45 (NLT)

⁴²*So Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. ⁴³But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

9) How does Jesus describe leadership in the Kingdom of God?
Leadership in God's Kingdom is rooted in serving others. It's not about position or authority but humility and sacrifice.

10) What does Jesus' own example teach us about greatness?
Jesus shows that true greatness is found in self-giving love. He willingly served and sacrificed for others, even to the point of the cross.

CHAIR TIME TOOLS

Reflection Questions for Chair Time: think about the following questions and pray through them with Jesus.

- 1) Where am I tempted to seek recognition instead of faithfulness?
- 2) What unseen daily disciplines could deepen my walk with Jesus this week?
- 3) Ask God to search your heart and refine your motives.