

Lent

devotions

READ:

Mark 9:30-50 ([click to open link](#))

REFLECT:

Ambition. It's something we all possess. Whether it be the ambition to succeed in work or education or the ambition to help others, it is human nature to want to do well. However, whatever our ambition, it's important to ask ourselves this – are we seeking to be applauded by man or by God. Is my ambition self-serving or does it seek to serve others? Do we want to succeed for our own gain or for the benefit of others.

Upon overhearing the disciples argue over who was the “greatest,” Jesus makes it clear where true success comes from. He makes it clear what the greatest type of ambition is.

“Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.” Mark 9: 35

In saying this, Jesus reiterates what it is we are called to do – serve one another. Love one another. Jesus points us plainly that, to be truly great, one must humble themselves, place their interests aside and do what is best for others.

RESPOND:

- How can you reflect Jesus' teaching and example when it comes to ambition?
- In what ways can you humble yourself when it comes to success?
- As you go about your day today, be aware of your actions. Are they self-serving? Or, are you exhibiting behavior that puts others first? What changes can you make to do so?