

**Theme: AN IGNORANT REQUEST**

**Memory Verse:** *Matthew 20:20-21* “Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, what wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom”.

**Texts: Mark 10:35-45; Luke 22:23-27, 14:11**

It took the apostles a long time before they fully understood Christ’s mission. Most of them felt Jesus was a political Messiah, who would, upon entering Jerusalem overthrow the Roman government and set up His own reign. In case Christ should leave them out in the scheme of things when His presumed overthrow of Rome was effected, two of His apostles came up with their mother with a request.

Christ has just spoken about His impending death in the hands of the religious leaders. This did not occupy the thought of James and John but how to be above the other disciples. James and John had been very close to Jesus Christ. Their request was borne out of a desire to become prominent among the rest of the apostles. They were ambitious for honour. This position-seeking tendency was however corrected by Christ. In fact He prayed for their sanctification (John 17: 17-19) in order to rid the little band of disciples of pride, arrogance and haughtiness.

Christ, in His answer, told James and John “... Ye know not what ye ask...” (Mathew 20:22). He asked them whether they are ready to drink of His cup and pass through the same baptism of suffering with Him. They answered in the affirmative. Incidentally, they drank of His cup, for James was later killed by Herod (Acts 12:2) while John experienced much persecution and tribulation (Revelation 1:9). Believers should not fight for position in the church or in the world but should diligently and faithfully serve the Lord who will reward all in due time.

<b>DAILY BIBLE READING</b>			
<b>MORNING</b>		<b>EVENING</b>	
<b>MON.</b>	<b>Ex. 8</b>		<b>Lk. 14</b>
<b>TUS.</b>	<b>Ex. 9</b>		<b>Lk.15</b>
<b>WED.</b>	<b>Ex. 10</b>		<b>Lk. 16</b>
<b>THUR.</b>	<b>Ex. 11</b>		<b>Lk. 17</b>
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>Ex. 12</b>		<b>Lk. 18</b>
<b>SAT.</b>	<b>Ex. 13</b>		<b>Lk. 19</b>
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>Ex. 14</b>		<b>Lk. 20</b>