

# MODGNIEK

## Week 3 Discussion Guide



### Icebreaker

When you hear the word greatness, what immediately comes to mind?

Is it success? Influence? Recognition? Leadership? Accomplishment? Having more? Being respected?

### Read

Mark 8:31-35, 9:31-37 & 10:43-45, Luke 6:38 & Malachi 3:6-10 (Optional: Have your group read the passage in two different versions. Then have the group retell the passage in their own words.)

### Discuss

We live in a world that constantly tells us more is better. More stuff, more status, more recognition. Social media turns other people's highlight reels into our measuring sticks. Jesus walks right into that narrative and flips it completely.

- **Where do you feel the pull of "more" most strongly in your own life? Stuff, status, recognition, comfort?**
- **The sermon described self-interest as something we're born with, not taught. Do you agree? What does that say about our need for something outside ourselves to change us?**

Jesus doesn't just teach servant leadership. He models it. In a culture that chases the top spot, Jesus points downward and says that is the direction of true greatness. This is not natural. It requires a daily decision to lay down our own agenda.

- **Jesus says in Mark 10:44-45 that even He came "not to be served but to serve." How does that change the way you think about your role in your family, workplace, or church?**
- **Think about someone in your life who genuinely models servant leadership. What does it look like practically? What does it cost them?**
- **What is one area in your life where descending, stepping back, serving quietly, going last, feels most difficult? Why do you think that is?**

Generosity is not just about money. But it does include money. Jesus connects our wallets to our hearts more than almost any other topic. The sermon pointed to time, talent, and treasure as three channels where generosity either flows or gets dammed up. Malachi 3 is a bold, even uncomfortable passage. God tells His people they are robbing Him by withholding what belongs to Him. But the promise attached is just as bold as the warning.

- **Of the three areas (time, talent, treasure), which one is hardest for you to be generous with? Why?**
- **Luke 6:38 uses the image of a basket pressed down, shaken together, and overflowing. Has there been a moment in your life when you gave generously and experienced something unexpected in return? Share it if you're comfortable.**

### Application

This week, don't just think about generosity. Practice it. Ask God: "Where are You inviting me to descend into greatness?" Then choose one specific action in each area:

- **Time: Who can I give unhurried, undistracted time to this week?**
- **Talent: What is one way I can use my specific gifting to serve someone else?**
- **Treasure: Is there one step I can take toward generosity or tithing that I have been putting off?**

### Prayer

Spend time in prayer asking God to help you follow the example of Jesus by going lower, serving others, and becoming the kind of person whose generosity naturally flows outward.