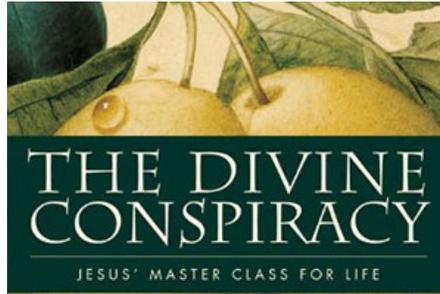


THE
BEACH CHURCH
Pensacola Beach · Florida



A Six Part Sermon Series
Inspired by the Writing of Dallas Willard

Part 3 - "A Truly Good Person"

thebeachchurch.com

Worship 9:00 am

Pastor Jim Coyl

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 19, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME

SONG

OPENING PRAYER: Psalm 145: 3-7

Great is our God, and worthy of praise!
God's goodness knows no limit;
God's faithfulness toward us is boundless!

God, your majesty and glory surround us here.
We've come together to celebrate your presence,
and to offer songs of praise and worship.
We've come to rejoice in your mighty acts,
and to retell the story of your goodness
throughout history and in our own lives.

Move among us as we worship together;
may your Spirit guide and inspire our thoughts and actions
as we spend this time in your presence.

In the name of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 10:25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

25 And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” **26** He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” **27** And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” **28** And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

29 But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” **30** Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. **31** Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. **32** So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. **33** But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. **34** He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. **35** And the next day he took out two denarii[a] and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ **36** Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” **37** He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

SERMON “Dikaiosune - A Truly Good Person”

PASTORAL PRAYER - THE LORD’S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN #421 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

In the story of the good Samaritan, Jesus not only teaches us to help people in need; more deeply, he teaches us that we cannot identify who “has it”, who is “in” with God, who is “blessed”, by looking at exteriors of any sort. That is a matter of the heart. There alone the kingdom of the heavens and human kingdoms great and small are knit together. Draw any cultural or social line you wish, and God will find his way beyond it.

Dallas Willard T.D.C.

Learn More about Dallas Willard: [The Dallas Willard Center](#)

Richard Rohr’s Instructions for centering prayer: [Centering Prayer](#)

Read Matthew 5 - 7: [The Sermon on The Mount](#)

FAMILY CORNER

Hello, children of God! There is a term that I’ve heard a bit lately, and perhaps you have, too... it’s hearing people called the “GOAT.” Have you heard that before? In this case, it doesn’t mean calling someone a barnyard animal. When we say someone is the “GOAT”, it actually stands for “Greatest of All Time.” Normally this refers to people in sports. Can you think of any figures you’ve heard connected to that term? I think of Peyton Manning! What makes these people so awesome?

Usually we recognize these figures as “heroes” because they have won a lot of awards or games. They might be top competitors in their category. To get where they are, they probably worked hard and practiced a lot. We celebrate achievements and give these “greats” recognition or awards or repayment. We honor people who have risen to the top and become the “greatest.” What do you think it takes to be great as a disciple of Jesus? How can we become the “GOAT” of Christ followers? This is something that the

disciples of Christ were asking. In fact, they were arguing about it in the Gospel passage we are looking at today. Jesus had been teaching and describing things that would happen to Him. A few of His disciples had been arguing about who was the greatest.

They might have been trying to figure out how to identify the “best” among them. But Jesus turned their conversation upside down. He told them that to be first, they must become last. What does this mean? Jesus wanted His disciples to be humble. Striving to be “the best” is not always best. Greatness does not depend on power or talent, but on putting others first.

We are made to serve one another and help each other. Jesus also wanted to remind His disciples (and us) that we depend on Him for all we have. While He was talking, Jesus took a small child. Kids back then were not seen as very important, and people often did not pay much attention to them. But Jesus told His followers that if they welcomed children, and gave attention to those who did not have as much status and esteem, they would truly be doing His work. Welcoming kids would be like welcoming Jesus Himself. In a way, we are like children because we depend on God for all we have.

We might think of ourselves as “great” sometimes, or try to become that way. But all that we have and all of who we are is in Christ. We aren’t great because we can slam dunk a basketball or throw a football. We are great in God’s eyes when we follow Him and recognize HIS greatness. We can pray for strength, and recognize that it comes from the Lord. Why don’t you say a prayer out loud to God right now?

Prayer:

Dear God,

YOU are truly the greatest.

Help us to think less of ourselves
and more of you.

Help us to serve one another.

Thank you for your love.

We love you, God!

In Jesus name,

Amen!

Bible Verses from Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him. And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”

And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."