

MARK 10: 32-45

DESIRES

**“Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other on your left”**

**The sons of Zebedee, James and John seem at best presumptuous and at worst narcissistic, by their request. We often wonder why Jesus wasn't harsher with them. They had been with Him for three years, and they had missed His central message, “those who give up their life will find it, those who seek their life will lose it.” This obviously was a teaching moment for Jesus and humiliation for James and John. But why wasn't Jesus more harsh? I think it was because their desire for Jesus was sincere, authentic.**

**A question that our gospel asks of all of us is, what do we**

**desire? Where does our desire for God fit with all of our other desires? I'd like a new truck, I'd like to have hair, I'd like my family to be perfect, our list of desires, if we think about them, is endless. But can we separate the serious important desires from the surface ones?**

**Authentic, important desires are windows into our souls. Whether our desires are authentic and important or surface and self-serving is very, very important. Choosing, labeling and understanding our desires will help us see who we really are. Knowing our desires, we will know what is important to us and what is not.**

**As human beings we are all created with an innate desire for God. From St. Augustine: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you". Why then is desire for God apparent in some and not so apparent in others? It is because some choose to**

live out their desire for God, and others simply live from one not so important desire to the next. Perhaps if we would understand how important we are to God we would dare to allow Him to be important to us. Jesus came to tell us and show us God's desire for us. From John's gospel, the high priestly prayer, Jesus speaks to the Father about you and I, "So that they may be one as you Father are in me, and I in you, that they may also be in us", and that you loved them even as you loved me. Father they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be'. Since you and I are truly important "to", and desired by the creator of the universe, isn't it a little ridiculous, for Him not to be important to us.

Sometimes our truly important, authentic desires are not readily apparent to us. It's at these times that we should spend time in the silence of our hearts and ask ourselves what

**is it that I desire to desire? Answering this question will help us identify our most important desires, that we have not truly committed to.**

**When we begin to study and look honestly at our desires, and what we desire to desire, it will become clear that God is very important to us. With consistency spending time in the silence of our hearts God will enjoy the place in our hearts that He deserves.**

**The question for our lives becomes whom do we truly desire, not what?**