

BEWARE OF THE

ME

monster



Beware of the Me Monster
Whose story are you telling?
Matthew 20:20–28

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20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. **21** And he said to her, “What do you want?” She said to him, “Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” **22** Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” **23** He said to them, “You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” **24** And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. **25** But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. **26** It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, **27** and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, **28** even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Me Monsters make stories about themselves for themselves

- Me Monsters tell stories for power & prestige
 - “21 And he said to her, ‘What do you want?’ She said to him, ‘Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your

kingdom.’ 22 Jesus answered, ‘You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?’ They said to him, ‘We are able’” (vv. 21–22).

- “At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, ‘Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?’” (Matthew 18:1).
- “28 Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel’” (Matthew 19:28).
- We are all prone to take noble endeavors and make them about us.
- Jesus is the only one uniquely qualified to tell the story about himself

We make the story about Jesus for others

- We tell stories to follow & serve
 - “even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (v. 28)
 - “17 And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, 18 ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death 19 and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day’” (vv. 17-19).
- The story about Jesus cannot be about us.
 - It must be about others
 - “Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man he will be what most people call ‘humble’ nowadays: he will not be a sort of greasy, swarms person who is always telling you that, of course, he is nobody. Probably all you will about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what you said to him. . . . He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all” (C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, 128).
 - It must be about Jesus.
- We are the only ones uniquely qualified to tell the story about Jesus to others.

Next Steps:

- Read the Gospels, study Jesus, discover how Jesus related to human beings
- Be interested in others
- Share the gospel

To slay the Me Monster you must make the story about Jesus for others.

