

BEWARE OF THE

ME

monster



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

Chances are you've met the Me Monster before. You're having a conversation with someone and all they can talk about is Me, Myself, and I! These Me Monsters can be obnoxious and annoying. But there's a more subtle and insidious Me Monster lurking. It's the one you know the best and simultaneously are unaware of. Have you guessed who yet? That's right! It's you. And me. And all of us. Jesus taught that the only true way to live is to beware of the Me Monster.

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

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

Matthew 20:20–28

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.”

- When you are around people, what do you tend to talk about? Do you find yourself talking more about yourself (or at least wanting to talk about yourself) than anything else?
- In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus does promise the disciples a lot (e.g., sitting on thrones, judging Israel, Matthew 19:28). But who is the kingdom of God actually about?
- Despite the Kingdom being about Jesus, how might have the disciples wanted to make it about themselves, both in deed and word?
- How do we make noble endeavors about ourselves?
- Jesus told a different story. What was Jesus’ story? See Matthew 20:28 and 20:17–19 for a hint at that story.
- Why is the gospel *the* story we all need to hear? How does it speak to some of our greatest desires and needs?
- How do we make the story of Jesus not about us but about others and ultimately about Jesus?
- How can you grow more comfortable with the story of Jesus—the gospel?
- Who in your life right now needs to hear the gospel? What’s your plan to share the gospel with them?