Serving, not served

Matthew 20:20-28

1. **An expression of self-interest**
	1. **The ‘self-interest’ attitude**
		1. ‘You only go around once’ Matt 19:10
		2. ‘You owe it to yourself’ Matt 19:27
		3. ‘Staying ahead of the competition’
		4. ‘Looking out for number one’ The impertinence [v. 21] and the indignation [v. 24]
	2. **The ‘self-interest’ danger**
		1. Ears deafened to the truth [vv. 17-19]
		2. Eyes blinded to the reality [v 22]
2. **An example of self-denial** [v. 28]
	* 1. Self-designation ‘Son of Man’
			1. **A messianic figure** Daniel 7:13-14
			2. **A frail human being** [Psalm 8:4; Heb 2: 5-9**]**
		2. ‘Self-humiliation’ – ‘not to be served, but to serve’
			1. **To be served** – a divine right
			2. **To serve** - a divine decision
		3. Self-surrender – ‘give His life as a ransom’
			1. Lytron – price of a slaves freedom
			2. Lytron – deliverance for hostage, prisoner of ward
3. **An expectation of self-sacrifice** [Matt 20: 26-27]
	* 1. To be great is to be diakonos
			1. The order of the towel
			2. The honour of the cross
		2. To be first is to be a doulos
		3. To be blest is to be a donor [Acts 20:35]
			1. The liberating effect of letting go
			2. The reciprocal result of generosity