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