

## Session 4

# James and John Who is the most important?

Children learn from the story of James and John that disciples must have servant hearts.

**Scripture:** Mark 10:35-45

### Supplies:

- ◆ Sandbox
- ◆ Toilet rolls to keep the pictures of Jesus and the disciples upright
- ◆ 3 wooden blocks of varying heights that look like a podium
- ◆ Copy of the crown; the front can be coloured in gold and the back can be coloured in brown. Glue it to a popsicle stick.
- ◆ Raffia/hay/pieces of paper
- ◆ Glue
- ◆ Popsicle sticks



### WELCOME

- \* Kids stand facing you, with plenty of room on all sides. Play the opposite game. Instruct the kids to do whatever is the opposite of your instructions. (If you say turn left, they turn right. If you say stand up, they sit down.) Have kids sit out as they make mistakes until you are left with a winner.
- \* Optional game: The group stands in the middle of the room in front of you. You call out two alternative choices and they have to decide which one. Call: Coke or Crème Soda, chocolate or chips, strawberry or chocolate milkshake, hockey or netball, etc. There is no wrong or right answer.



### WORSHIP

Sing the **theme song** and do the **settle-down ritual** as in session 1.



### WORD

Read Mark 10:35-45. Play the story in a sandbox. Start with James, John and Jesus. Put the wooden blocks like a podium in the sandbox.

“James and John, Zebedee’s sons, came to Jesus and said: ‘Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask.’ ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ he asked. They said: ‘Allow one of us to sit on your right and the other on your left when you enter your glory.’ Jesus replied: ‘You don’t know what you’re asking! Can you drink the cup I drink or receive the baptism I receive?’ ‘We can,’ they answered. Jesus said: ‘You will drink the cup I drink and receive the baptism I receive, but to sit at my right or left hand isn’t mine to give. It belongs to those for whom it has been prepared.’ Now when the other ten disciples heard about this, they became angry with James and John. Jesus called them over and said: ‘You know that the ones who are considered the rulers by the Gentiles

show off their authority over them and their high-ranking officials order them around. But that's not the way it will be with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

**The children now get a chance to reflect on the story:**

1. I wonder why people think they are more important than others.
2. I wonder how John and James felt when they heard Jesus' answer.
3. I wonder how you would have felt if Jesus asked you to serve others.
4. I wonder how you can serve people around you.



**WORKING AND PLAYING TIME**

- ✍ Make a spinner with popsicle sticks. (<http://www.jesus-without-language.net/james-and-john-mark-10-make-2/>) The idea behind these is that only when you let go of control it becomes beautiful.
- ✍ Make a crown that can be turned upside down and then looks like a broom to remind yourself that we must serve others. Children can decorate the broom with pieces of twine/hay to illustrate it is a broom.
- ✍ Make a plan with your group to help someone in your school/community. Decide on an idea and a date for what and when you'll be doing.

Close with the **benediction** as in session 1.



“Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.” Mark 10:43b