

We serve God by serving others

Joe Sarnicola/Contributing writer

James and John were brothers, the son of a man named Zebedee. When Jesus was looking for trustworthy men to be his closest friends and disciples, he found the two men preparing to set out in a fishing boat with their father. When Jesus asked if they wanted to go with him, they immediately left their father with his work and they went with Jesus. They had never regretted going with Jesus on that day, but they often had questions.

James told John to ask one such question, even though both men wanted to know the answer. They found Jesus with the other 10 disciples, and they asked him if they could speak with him privately. Jesus stepped away from the other disciples to be with James and John. John hesitated, he looked at James, and then he looked at Jesus.

Finally he said, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

With an intense, yet gentle stare, Jesus looked into the eyes of his two friends. Rather than agreeing without hearing their request, Jesus asked them, "What do you wish me to do for you?"

James blurted out their request, not waiting for his brother to answer.

"Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left."

Jesus chuckled and shook his head. "You do not know what you are



Linda Jeanne Rivers/Catholic Courier

Kids' Chronicle

asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"

James and John nodded. "We can," they said together.

Jesus said firmly, "The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been

prepared."

The other disciples became curious and came over to hear what James and John had been talking about. Jesus addressed all 12 of his disciples.

"Those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, but it shall not be so among you. Whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Mark 10

Q&A

1. What did James and John ask Jesus?
2. How did Jesus answer the question?

Bible Accent

During biblical times, the most common fabric for clothing was sheep's wool. Sackcloth, a rougher-textured fabric, was made from goat's hair. It was called sackcloth because it was often used for making sacks in which to store grain. Linen, a very fine fabric, was made from the flax plant in textures ranging from delicate to very smooth. Silk, which only the rich could afford, came in a variety of bright, shiny colors.

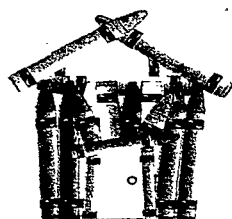
Wool or other fibers were wound on a device called a distaff, after which the women would spin thread and weave the threads into cloth on a loom. The women also learned how to use plants and other ingredients to make colored dyes.

St. Mary Soledad

Mary Soledad, who was born Emanuela Torres Acosta in 1826, lived in a quiet neighborhood in Madrid. She followed the example of her parents by spending time in prayer and attending church regularly.

She liked to visit the Dominican nuns in the nearby convent, and her parents thought she would eventually join the order. Instead, Mary became one of seven women who worked with a Spanish religious to meet the needs of the sick and poor people in his parish. After five years, Mary was the superior of a foundation, known as the Handmaids of Mary, that reached out to homeless and delinquent children. Mary's nuns established or worked in hospitals in every region of Spain, and even one in Cuba.

Mary remained active throughout her life until her death in 1887. We honor her on Oct. 11.



Kids' Club

You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) in response to **If Jesus were to visit your church this week, what question would you like to ask him? Why?** Send your essay — including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade — to *Catholic Courier*, P.O. Box

24379, Rochester, NY 14624. Deadline for entries is Oct. 16. The winner will be notified by phone. The winner's essay will be published in an upcoming issue of *Kids' Chronicle*.

Last month's winner was Andrew LeBrun, a fifth-grader at St. Patrick's School in Seneca Falls. In response to **What can we do to serve God, even though we are still young?** he wrote, "Even though I am 10 years old, I can still serve God. The first thing I can do to serve God is to go to Mass every weekend. I can also pray one decade of the rosary every night before I go to bed. Another thing I can do to serve God is to follow the Ten Commandments and love my neighbor as myself. Going to St. Patrick's School is great because you learn everything about religion. Finally I can forgive others if they hurt me.

"Those are the things I can do to serve God and I try to do them every day."

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Puzzle

Fill in the blanks with the numbers from the list that complete the Bible passage. Answers on page 13.

5,000 3 12 72 144,000 40 1

1. Jesus fasted _____ days and nights. *Matthew 4*
2. Jesus summoned his _____ disciples. *Matthew 10*
3. The Lord appointed _____ others. *Luke 10*
4. Those who ate were _____ men. *Mark 6*
5. _____ marked from the Israelites. *Revelations 7*
6. _____ God and Father of all. *Ephesians 4*
7. In _____ days I will raise it up. *John 2*

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