

Greatest of All Time

Identity, Not Ability

We often want to measure greatness by a person's ability, or by what they have accomplished. But God reveals that, while what we do matters, who we are and who we become matters more.

Discussion Questions

1. How often do you use the phrase "the greatest"? Do you use it as a compliment ("oh man, she's just the greatest") or do use it as a comparison ("that athlete is the greatest")? When was the last time you might have called someone "the greatest"?
 2. The world has at least four markers for greatness: ability, accomplishment, acknowledgment, and authority. When you think of greatness, which of these markers do you think of first?
 3. Do you have an ability that you are proud of? Something that you do well and that you feel comfortable talking about? Please share.
 4. Have you ever met someone who's worth seemed tied up with their ability? Have their everyman times in your life when you have taken your sense of self from your ability to do something well (or even from your lack of ability to do something well). If so, how did that happen to you? Please describe.
 5. The events of Jesus is life are of incredible importance. But his identity is vastly more important. The events of your life are important as well. But your character... who you truly are... is even more important. If your life was cut short (if your story was cut short) would you be OK with the character/identity you had become? Please share.
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God in Real Life

This week, be attentive to the way your identity as a child of God affects the way you see the events of each day. Notice the way focusing on your character rather than your abilities influences your perspective.

To the Heart

"Thus says the LORD: 'Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you.'"
Isaiah 35:4