

Sermon by Father Chuck Owens | Mark 10:42-45

THE UPSIDE-DOWN GOSPEL

"The Upside-Down Gospel"

Thoughts to Ponder

1. Life comes at us quickly and rhythmically.
 - a. Time seems to move faster as we age. Have you found this to be true? If so, please give an example or two; if not, please share your secret.
 - b. What is your favorite season of the Church year and why?
2. Those in positions of authority in Jesus' time, lorded their power over others. Jesus taught that His disciples should turn that worldly example upside-down, seeking to serve rather than to be served. (Mark 10:42-43)
 - a. Can you site examples of leaders today who have embraced that mindset? If so, please do.
 - b. In this dog-eat-dog world, many consider serving others to be foolish. Do you? If not, please tell why and give a few examples from your life.
3. Many folks spend their entire adult lives searching for significance.
 - a. Are you one of them? If so, please share how you define significance and the efforts you've made to avoid insignificance.
 - b. Sometimes the folks who labor in the shadows have the greatest impact on our lives. Can you name someone like that in your life? Are you such a person in the life of others?

4. As we move through life, we tend accumulate lots of baggage in the form of things but more importantly in the form of ideas and perceptions that we hold to be true, even life-defining.
 - a. We easily discard tangible possessions by sending them to God's Goods; please name a few such items and why you thought them no longer important to hold onto.
 - b. We find it much harder to discard our accumulated perceptions and values and are often very vocal about our preference for "the way things used to be in the good old days." Please give a few examples of why that shoe does or does not fit you.

