

Whose glory do we seek? There can be no share in God's glory without the Cross. When Jesus prophesied about his betrayal and crucifixion, it did not make any sense to his disciples because it simply did not fit in their understanding of what the Messiah came to do. Do we resemble the disciples at times? We reject what we do not wish to see. Perhaps Jesus and the disciples were in two different wave-lengths. He was speaking about servanthood, suffering, betrayal, rejection and death. They were completely pre-occupied with who would be the greatest among them, and looking for the best position in his kingdom. When Jesus spoke about his painful death, he was repetitive and very clear about it. Whereas the disciples understood it as much as to shun it. They knew that the topic was ominous and painful; they deliberately failed to remove the veil, which covered the dreadful mystery. It is a natural, but disastrous, human impulse not to know the worst. When we confront a problem or a crisis in life, we must not run away from thinking and evaluating it objectively. Evasion is never a solution to a problem. We must learn to have courage to analyze any problem from every angle and be willing to face it. Jesus tells his disciples to embrace the attitude of a little child. In the ancient world, little children had no rights, position or privileges of their own. They were socially at the bottom and at the service of their parents, much like the household staff or servants. The disciples must be humble and lowly of heart- who instead of asserting their rights, willingly empty themselves of pride and self-seeking glory by taking the lowly position of a servant or a child. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, the greatest example for his followers to follow with all the heart, soul, mind and strength. True greatness and glory are in our humility and selfless service to our brothers and sisters.

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