



Ozark Mission Project, Inc.
Youth and Adults Organized to Serve

**June Devotion:
Cup-ability
Read Mark 10:32-45**

Be careful what you ask for. That's what someone should have told James and John. Talk about someone who just doesn't get it! Hello? Jesus has just explained how he will have to suffer and die, and here are James and John asking to sit on his right hand and his left hand when he comes into his "glory." James and John, do you realize what you are asking? His "glory" will be a crown of thorns and a cross. Be careful what you ask for. That is essentially what Jesus tells them when he asks, "Are you able to drink the cup I drink?"

James and John are quick to say "we are able" because they just don't get it. To drink the cup means to give to others, to pour yourself out, to die to self. Jesus explains that if you want to be great, you must learn to be a slave to others. Not just someone who does a good deed for another. A slave! Are you ready to give up your comfort, give up your time, give up your pride and drink the cup that Jesus drank? Are you ready to put other people first? To love them at all cost? Are you able to drink the cup?

It seems an impossible thing to really drink the cup like Jesus asks. How can I really be a servant or a slave? The wonderful news from this gospel passage is that you and I really can drink the cup. That's what Jesus tells James and John and us, "The cup that I drink you will drink." You will drink! He's telling us that we can drink of the cup of self sacrificing love. We can pour ourselves out and give of our time and our service. We can do what Jesus would do. We can drink the cup. We have cup-ability. At my first OMP, my family group was trying to replace some rotten flooring. Everything was going wrong. We had managed to get a drill bit stuck in a 4X4 post; our saw was broken. Why were we there? We'll never get this done! But then our 8 year old neighbor started singing "This Little Light of Mine," and we forgot about how tired we were. We just wanted to finish for him and his mother. We forgot about ourselves and we were able. We drank the cup! Are you ready to drink the cup? You can because when you lose yourself to his service, God gives you cup-ability.

How does it feel to think about being a slave to other people?

What are one or two specific ways that God is calling you to serve others?

How can you receive the ability to drink the cup?