



**Four Strategies To Build Your Dreams For The Future**  
**(The Power of Positive and Negative Peer Pressure)**  
**(Matthew 20:24-28)**

**Date: January 25-26, 2020**

24 And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers. 25 But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. 26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. 27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

**Series Summary:**

1. Don't Work Alone (Isolated)
2. Don't Be Confused
3. Don't Be Naive`
4. Don't Be Peer Pressured

**I. Positive and Negative Peer Pressure In Action**

1. James and John were being **negatively** pressured to **never strive for senior positions**
2. James and John were being **negatively** pressured to **never verbalize their dreams** publicly
3. James and John were being positively pressured to be **servant leaders** (cp. John 13:1-20)
4. James and John were being **positively** pressured to be **examples to the Gentiles** (John 20:25-28)

- " 24 And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers. 25 You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. 26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but **whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.** 27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

**II. Three Lessons From a Pressured Moment**

1. You should never allow your ambitions to be **defined** by people with less vision than you
2. You should never allow a moment of tension to **distract** you from your life's mission
3. You should never **forget** you are an **example** to those around you that don't know Christ

**III. Four Peer Pressures We Must Confront In Our Future**

1. Religious Peer Pressure (We will be tempted to fight all cultural changes)
2. Financial Peer Pressure (We will be tempted to be too timid or too aggressive)
3. Vocational Peer Pressure (We will be tempted to work too much for fear of being lazy)
4. Cultural Peer Pressure (**Humanism** will continue to pressure us to elevate man above God)
- 5.



**Quote: T.D. Jakes, Instincts: The Power to Unleash Your Inborn Drive (Page 249)**

- While looking at giraffes on a safari, Jakes said, “I failed to realize that once you reach a certain level, you can’t be offended by other species **who continue looking up from the ground!** Once you get to a certain stature, you can’t find nourishment in low places. ***Just because turtles’ dwell at your feet doesn’t mean you should come down from your height and barter with, debate, or eat alongside them.***”

**Note: Everybody has value, but everyone can’t help you.**

**Next Time:** Dreaming an Impossible Dream In This Season of Your Life

**Two Questions to Ponder:**

1. Do you have the right dream but the wrong attitude?
2. Will your attitude make your dreams impossible?

**Read Ahead:** Hebrews 5:12 – 6:12