

# Speaker - Andrew Merry



Mark 9:33-37—**Who is Greatest?** They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." Disciples talking between themselves and Jesus pulled them up to teach them about true greatness.

Greatness in God eyes is not first but last totally opposite of what the world says.  
Just like the disciples we want to be greater than then next person - comparing each other  
In Genesis - we were made to rule and reign  
It is about serving and putting others before yourself - Jesus lived it he went to the cross for us.

Radical discipleship is the same way laying down our life for others - God sees greatness in you when you do that

## **The Jesus brings in a little child in**

### **1. Children more than any other group prove your motivation when serving.**

Daily you lay down your life for them - As they get older they expect you to still serve then  
It goes past family and on to others so that that might have a chance

### **2. Children are the most abused section in the world**

80-100,000 babies don't make it out of their mothers womb in Australia every year  
Even on the dole you are on in the top 7% of the richest people in the world

Kids under 5 overseas - 21,000 die every day from preventable poverty related diseases, malaria, dysentery etc  
In India - every 2nd child under 3 suffers from malnutrition 60% of kids die of diseases due to malnutrition  
40% of underweight babies in the world are from India  
1,000,000 children are traded as sex slaves every year

When you sponsor a young girl it means they won't be sent off to work  
12.6 million children engaged in hazardous occupations  
India has the largest number of child laborers under the age of 14 in the world

Radical Christianity can make a change - half hearted Christian will be nothing  
Put in the word of God into a child (children are more open to it) before 13 as they are forming their beliefs then.  
Over 15 years of age 5% will commit to serving God  
Under 13 years 37% chose Jesus and serve him  
4-14 yrs 60-80% of then will commit their lives to Jesus in that window

Jesus was saying you have got to reach the kids  
When you can effect the child you also effect the families related to them

Releasing children from poverty in Jesus name—One child at a time  
Christ centered. Child focused. Church-based  
Compassion began in South Korea 1952  
26 different countries they affect  
Resource rich areas supporting resource poor areas  
South Korea was a sponsored nation now a sponsoring nation

To challenge partner and equip the church to release children from Spiritual, Economic, Social, Physical and Emotional poverty in Jesus name. So they can embrace life and live abundantly

Provides education, vocational training, health care, nourishing meals, Christian teaching  
168,000 children made first time commitments to Jesus as Saviour  
The church is the solution to poverty  
Our church in East India - we can keep in contact with the church there and go over to visit the children

1. Child survival program - Look after babies in mums tummy until age 3
2. Child sponsorship program
3. Leadership development program - take the kids who are sponsored and doing really well at school and put them through a leadership course
4. Complementary interventions - not only the child but other children in the community

Our area is Dinthar, east India, EI-712, Dinthar Child development centre 1.5 kms northwest of Aizawl, India  
To Sponsor a child through compassion it starts at \$44 per month