

"SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THUNDER"

A Sermon By

Philip A. C. Clarke

Park Avenue United Methodist Church  
106 East 86th Street  
New York, New York 10028  
October 16, 1994

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### INTRODUCTION

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"You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" To which the brothers replied, "Lord...we are able!"

THEY WERE NOT LACKING IN CONFIDENCE

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#### GREATNESS COMES IN SERVING OTHERS

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Instead of thinking in worldly ways of success and power and privilege, He taught them, saying:

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I think Jesus knew what it is to be human. I think He knew that when we accomplish something, we want some recognition. We want our awards, our ribbons, our plaques to hang on our walls and to decorate our coffee tables. We want others to know what we've done. He understands all of that, but what He wants us to know is that true greatness is found in service - service to the community, service to our churches, service to the least and the lowest. But go back for a moment to our text, back to James and John. They were tempted, it seems to me, to take the easy road, the lower road...not the high road. At that moment, they did not understand that service is the "key" to greatness, not prestige and power.

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PRAYER

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