

Return to Me #4

## The Price of Greatness

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

Zechariah 4:1-14

#### Discussion Questions

1. What great achievement do you consider you have in your life for which you had to pay a “price”? Share with the group what you had to do in order to accomplish that goal.
2. Read Zechariah 4:1-14. The fifth vision that God showed Zechariah to encourage His people to return to Him was of a gold lampstand with a bowl and seven lights on it. It represented a steady supply of oil, signifying the power of God reflected in the light, which represents the temple and the Israelites. But before Zechariah was given the meaning of this vision, two prophecies were given first about Zerubbabel, the governor who was given the responsibility of rebuilding the temple of Jerusalem. However, Zerubbabel, who tried his best to motivate the people, felt like a failure. Apparently, he was looking for success and greatness on his own. What was the Lord’s reminder to Zerubbabel on verse 6? What is the significance of this instruction to Zerubbabel, and how is it relevant to you?
3. Greatness comes with a price, and our passage gives us the price we have to pay in order to achieve greatness in God’s kingdom. The first is the price of humility (v. 6). When you’re given a big project, do you come to the Lord first before you begin working, or do you only come to Him when nothing else works? How do you understand God’s grace? Why is it that without God’s grace, you are just an ordinary person? How are you showing that you recognize God’s ability over yours in any area of your life?
4. The second price of greatness is the price of surrender, or stepping aside and letting God do the work (v. 7-9). The temple that God built

through the leadership of Zerubbabel was completed because God always finishes what He has started. Share with the group an experience when you were at a lost what to do, but instead of just giving up, you surrendered it to God and allowed Him to work it out for you. Are you willing to yield to His will? How is it being manifested in your life? What usually hinders a person from yielding to God’s will?

5. Finally, the third price of greatness is the price of conformity, or obedience (v. 10). The people of Israel thought that the temple would never be finished, and they criticized that it was not as beautiful as the previous temple. But the Lord wanted Zerubbabel to continue rebuilding despite the people saying that what he was doing was small, because God does not despise small things done in obedience to Him. Small things are a display of God’s greatness. Discuss how small things display God’s greatness. Share with the group how the small things you have done produced great things because of your faithfulness in doing it.
6. The two anointed ones mentioned on verses 11-14 are Joshua the high priest, and Zerubbabel the governor. The one supplying oil is Christ Himself who sustains the lamp and will make Israel great again. How does Christ sustain you in your daily struggles in life? Describe how His “oil” keeps you going in your walk with Him.

### Walk

Who doesn’t want to be great? Greatness, though, has a price tag requiring an attitude of humility, surrender, and obedience. Are you willing to pay this price in order to be great before the Lord? How can discipleship help you in this endeavor?

### Worship & Prayer

*Father, forgive me for forgetting that You are the God of grace who enables me to do what I can do, and who gives me the ability for what I can’t do. Lord, with a humble heart I acknowledge Your power, and I surrender my life to You. Grant me an opportunity to show my obedience as a follower of Jesus Christ, and give me strength and determination to follow through. With this opportunity teach me to obey You, step by step. I pray these in Jesus’ name. Amen.*