

“Childlike Greatness”

Matthew 18:1–5

August 6, 2023

“Because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.” (Philippians 1:5)

Humility

“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:10)

“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:25–28)

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28–30)

“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.” (Matthew 23:12)

Hospitality

“Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.’ And he laid his hands on them and went away.” (Matthew 19:13–15)

Notes

Discuss

- In what ways are you tempted to have a prideful attitude? In what ways are you tempted to sinfully pursue elevating your own position? How does Jesus' command to "become like children" (Matthew 18:3) both challenge and encourage you?
- Can Christians be ambitious without selfishly promoting themselves? If so, how?
- In your circumstances, how can you obey the command of Jesus to show hospitality to children in his name?
- How do the instructions of Jesus in Matthew 18:6–14 further your understanding of how individual Christians, and their churches, should relate to kids?

Read

Matthew 18:6–14; 20:20–28; 23:1–11; Philippians 2:1–11; James 4:1–10

Pray

- That God will help you to develop childlike humility.
- That God will make our congregation a place where children are welcomed more and more fully in the name of Jesus.

Bulletin

- Women's Bible Study (Twelve Weeks): Wednesdays at 10:00am
- Men's Breakfast: August 12 at 8:00am
- Exploring Membership: August 13, 20, 27, and September 3 at 9:30am