

True Greatness

Matthew 18:1-14

Getting Started

How do people usually think of greatness?

Digging In

1. **Read Matthew 18:1-4.** What was on the minds of the disciples? What was their concern? (cf. Mark 9:33-34)
2. Did Jesus answer the question they were asking? Explain.
3. Jesus said that we need to become like little children in order to enter the kingdom of God. What characteristics of a child do you think he had in mind?
4. From God's perspective, who is the greatest in the kingdom?
5. **Read Matthew 18:5-6.** How is Jesus' concern for children seen in these verses?
6. Give some examples of causing a *little one* to sin.
7. **Read Matthew 18:7-9.** How does Jesus make the point in these verses that we are to take sin seriously?
8. Give some practical examples of how we can apply these verses.
9. **Read Matthew 18:10-14.** Summarize the parable Jesus tells here.
10. What is the attitude of the man whose sheep wanders away?
11. What is God's attitude toward young believers who wander from him?
12. In Luke 15:1-7 Jesus tells the parable of the **lost** sheep. Here in Matthew he tells a parable about a sheep that **wanders** away. God is concerned about both. How can we reflect that concern?



Getting Personal

- How does your life match up with Jesus' definition of greatness in the kingdom?
- Are you comfortable with sin, or confronting sin?
- Is there someone who has wandered that you need to contact?