

Be As Little Children

Matthew 18:1-5

Background

- Quarrel b/w Apostles – who will be the greatest in the kingdom? (:1)
- Jesus responds by calling a little child to Him (:2)
- Necessity of entering the Kingdom: become as little children (:3)(c.f. Mt. 19:14)
- Whoever (i.e. no one is the greatest) becomes as a little child is greatest (:4-5)

Humility

- Whoever humbles himself... (:1,3,4)
- Christ example of humility (Jn. 13:5,12-17; Phil. 2:5-8)
- Humility Before God
 - Recognition of our sin (James 4:6-10; Mt. 5:3; Rom. 3:23)
 - Allow Him to exalt us, cast all our care (1 Pt. 5:5-7)
- Humility Among Each Other
 - Walking worthy of our calling (Eph. 4:1-3; Phil. 2:1-4)
 - Become a servant of all (Mk. 9:35)

Purity

- Little children are pure/innocent of sin (:5-9)
- Of such is the kingdom of heaven (Mt. 19:14; Mt. 5:8)
- Be holy as He is holy (1 Pt. 1:15-16; 1 Jn. 3:1-3)
- Be 'simple' [unmixed, pure] concerning evil (Rom. 16:19; Js. 1:27)
- Complete abstinence from evil (1 Thess. 5:22; Eph. 5:3)

Desire For Nourishment/Growth

- Called to growth and spiritual maturity (1 Peter 2:1-3; Heb. 5:12-6:1a)
- Should desire the approval of God and seek to please Him (Heb. 11:6; Gal. 1:10; 2 Tim. 2:4, 15)
- Zealous (eager) to do good (Titus 2:14)

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