

Matthew 18; Mark 9:48-50; Luke 17:5-10 - Daily Study Questions

4. In Matthew 18:12-14 upon whom does the Father focus (v12-13) and what does He desire for them (v14)?	
5. Using Matt 18:15-17 how are we to treat believers who stumble and why (v15)? What other steps are we to take (v16, 17) and what does this mean?	
6. Read Matt 18:18-20. How does God view our efforts to restore a sinning brother (v18-19)? How involved is He in the process (v20)?	
7. From Matt 18:21-22 what question did this raise for Peter (v21) and what did he propose (v21)? What higher principle did Jesus give (v22)?	
8. In Matt 18:23-35 in Jesus' story how did the master and first slave act differently (v23-27, 28-30) and what happened when the master found out (v31-34)? What is the point (v35)?	
9. Looking at Luke 17:5-10 what does it require to forgive someone (v5-6) and what mindset must we have about ourselves (v7-9, 10)? How should we apply this?	
10. Using Mark 9:48-50 what grave truth does Jesus give about our actions towards others (v49)? How are we to be like salt in our relationships (v50)?	
11. Look back over the section. Describe the heart of the truly great (Matt 18:1-14), the hope of the truly great (Matt 18:15-35), and the humility of the truly great (Lu 17, Mk 9).	

Scripture to Remember

“Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven, and whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me.”

Matthew 18:4-5 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Words With Friends—Kindness (Col 3:12; Tit 3:4-5)

(Using questions from Sunday's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Think of one of the kindest things that anyone has ever done for you and share that with the group. What is kindness?
2. Using Col 3:12 talk about how we “put on” kindness, and how this relates to the “fact-faith-feeling” train.
3. Read Tit 3:4-5. What was the “kindness of God” that appeared? Using Heb 4:14-16 what does Jesus understand about us and why does He demand that we draw near? How do you relate to that personally?
4. Why is it important to discern between explanations and excuses to receive God's grace? How do you do that? Give examples.
5. Talk about the ways that you receive encouragement from the Lord. In what areas do you need encouragement the most and how can we do that for each other?
6. Discuss why helping us know the truth about ourselves is one of the kindest things others can do for us. How does God do it and how can we do it for one another?
7. Do you think people really believe that God forgives them? Why or why not? Why is it vital to accept God's forgiveness for our spiritual lives and relationships?



THE LIFE OF JESUS

Studies in the Gospels

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

“I Am the Greatest”

Matthew 18; Mark 9:48-50; Luke 17:5-10

Mohammed Ali, one of boxing’s greatest heavyweights, was well-known for having said, “I am the greatest” after his fight with Sonny Liston in 1964. In the boxing world what happens in the ring settles the question of greatness but it’s in the real world where true greatness matters. In this week’s study Jesus’ disciples wanted to know who was greatest in His kingdom, and He gave them a good description of true greatness. First, the heart of the truly great is turned towards those who are weaker. This means that we must become like children to attain true greatness because we must come down to a person’s level in order to help them. Our focus is on them, rather than us, so we must receive them, we must not cause them to stumble, and we must avoid stum-

bling ourselves so that we won’t be a hindrance to them. Along these same lines the hope of the truly great is that the one who is lost will be brought back into the fold. A brother who has sinned must be reproved and restored. If he is unwilling to listen, the two or three must go, and then the entire church if necessary. We must stop at nothing to seek the restoration of one who has sinned and gone astray. If they won’t respond after such efforts they must be banned from the fellowship in order to experience the misery that the loss of fellowship brings. When the church makes this decision in the name of Jesus He completely affirms it as if He were physically present. When Jesus declared this it made Peter wonder how often a person should be forgiven if they responded in repentance. Jesus



Jesus’ one solitary life changed the course of mankind for eternity.

said however often they repent is how often we must forgive because restoration is the main concern. Finally, Jesus illustrated the humility of the truly great with a parable. To be able to forgive others who have sinned often requires great faith, but those who are great need no recognition for this. They are just “doing their job” as servants are called to do. Part of this job is the willingness to be salt, disregarding the approval of others on the line so those who are lost can be restored. The truly great are truly humble, designated them as “I am the greatest”.

Study Questions for Matthew 18; Mark 9:48-50; Luke 17:5-10

(For answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study%20questions))

<p>1. Read Matthew 18:1-4. What was the disciples’ question (v1) and what was Jesus’ two part answer (v2-3, 4)? What did they need to do (v3, 4) and what does it mean to become like a little child?</p>	
<p>2. Using Matt 18:5-7 who are we to receive like Jesus (v5) and what is the benefit (v5)? What is the opposite approach (v6, 7) and result (v6, 7)? Give examples.</p>	
<p>3. From Matt 18:8-11 how are we to treat anything that causes us to stumble (v8, 9) and why (v8-9)? How does this relate to the way we treat other “little ones” (v10-11) and what does this mean?</p>	

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