

Humbly Entering

The Kingdom

5.5.24

# THE WAY OF THE Kingdom

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

**Matthew 18:1-6** | Also found in Mk. 9:33-34 Lk. 9:46

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”  
<sup>2</sup> He called a little child to him and placed the child among them. <sup>3</sup> And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup> And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. <sup>6</sup> “If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

**THE REAL QUESTION: What does it mean to be great?**

“Truly I tell you unless you CHANGE”  
**στραφήτε (straphēte) to CONVERT.**

**THE REAL QUESTION: What does it mean to be humble?**

**John 13:14-17**

<sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup> I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Those who wish to enter the kingdom must turn away from their own power and self-seeking, and in childlike humility call on God’s mercy to allow them to enter the kingdom of heaven.  
~ Michael Wilkins

**Jesus is Consistent Mark 10:13-16**

<sup>13</sup> People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” <sup>16</sup> And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

**God opposes the Proud**

James 4:6, Psalms 138:6, Proverbs 3:34 James 4:10, Luke 14:11

**Humility is in the Gospel**  
Rom. 3:23; Rom 6:23; Rom. 5:8; Eph. 2:8-9

**Psalm 131**

My heart is not proud, Lord,  
my eyes are not haughty;  
I do not concern myself with great matters  
or things too wonderful for me.  
<sup>2</sup> But I have calmed and quieted myself,  
I am like a weaned child with its mother;  
like a weaned child I am content.<sup>3</sup> Israel, put your hope in the Lord  
both now and forevermore.