

NO PERFECT PEOPLE ALLOWED
COME AS YOU ARE
Childlike Faith Week 9
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What did you have to do to join the club?

You would think that after hanging out with Jesus a while that He would begin to rub off on the disciples. But I think that they were a lot like us, slow learners.

WHO IS THE GREATEST?

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
Matthew 18:1 NIV

The disciples are just like the rest of us. We think in terms of position, power, seniority, earned benefits, accomplishments.

YOU MUST BECOME CHILDLIKE

He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."
Matthew 18:2-3 NIV

Children can be unselfconscious.

Children are very dependent.

Children are very receptive.

At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children."
Matthew 11:25 NIV

WE MUST TRUST JESUS

Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. Matthew 18:4-5 NIV

To prove this point to the disciples and us, Jesus posed this question.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Mark 10:23-25 NIV

The disciples' reaction was not unlike your own.

The disciples were astounded. "Then who in the world can be saved?" they asked. Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God."
Mark 10:26-27 NLT

THE STEPS OF FAITH

Jesus called the child.
Jesus led the child.
Jesus loved the child.

Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." Mark 9:36b-37 NIV

What is childlike faith?

It is hearing the voice of Jesus and going to Him. Doing what He asks you to do, and having a great relationship with Him.

The message of God is pretty clear.

Come as you are.

Risk letting the real you out and connect with people who are on the same life journey that you are on.

Let God do a work in your life.

He is the only one who can cause the growth.

And enjoy a childlike faith.

It is the secret to a great life.