



Series: Unexpected Messiah

Passage Matthew 18:1-14

Title: The Privilege of Being a Child of God

Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 1/31/2021

Discussion Starter – Why is it so important for us to remember the privileges we have as children of God? What are some of those privileges, and how should knowing them impact our lives?

Jesus Continues His Teaching (Matthew 18:1-14)

- Jesus' last teaching was with Peter and the temple tax. Jesus showed him the privilege of being a son of God. What was Jesus trying to show Peter?
- Describe what you see going on as the disciples approach Jesus. What was the root of the disciples question, "Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven"? How are we prone to the same problem? Read Romans 7:14-15 and Romans 8:1-2. What do these scriptures reveal to us as children of God?
- Why did Jesus use this illustration to His disciples of a little child to show them how they could be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? What can we learn from the way Jesus goes about in His teaching and correction of the disciples?
- How is childlike faith often misrepresented in the church today by its members.
- What was the disciples view of greatness in the kingdom of heaven? What are your thoughts, is it OK to desire to be great in God's Kingdom? Read Philippians 3:12-14 and 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. Describe in your own words the message being taught in these scriptures.
- Compare and contrast the question of the disciples in Matthew 18:1 to Jesus' response in verse 3 and 4. What message was Jesus conveying to the disciples and why is this so important?
- What is Jesus teaching us in Matthew 18:5-6? Who are the little children in our lives and how might we cause them to stumble? Read Matthew 18:21-22 and 25:34-40. What additional insights do these verses tell us about how to receive one in Jesus' name?
- Why is justice so elusive in the world we live in today? What is the core problem?
- What is Jesus teaching us about sin and the world we live in as we read Matthew 18:7-9? What are the ravaging effects of sin and how do we go about taking this sin seriously?
- Read Matthew 18:10-14. Define "despise". How might we "despise little ones"?
- What are some of the additional privileges we see granted to these little children of God?
- How does laying hold of these privileges equip us to work in the Kingdom of God?