

***A Simple
Faith***

Matthew 18:1-4

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1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Introduction

A. The disciples' misguided question

Luke 9:46

Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.

B. Christ's object lesson

I. Salvation

“Except ye be converted”

A. A change of heart

Romans 10:9-10

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

I. Salvation

“Except ye be converted”

B. A change of mind

Luke 12:29-31

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

I. Salvation

“Except ye be converted”

C. A change in direction

Matthew 3:8

Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

II. Surrender

“become as little children”

A. Requires humility (v 4)

1. In the sight of God

James 4:10

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. In the sight of man

Luke 18:14

I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

II. Surrender

“become as little children”

B. Requires following God

1. By listening

Psalm 27:8

When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

2. By living

Luke 9:23

And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

III. Study

A. Must be diligent

2 Peter 1:5-7

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

III. Study

B. Must know where to look

John 5:39

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

C. Must do it yourself

Acts 17:11

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

III. Study

D. Will have right results

2 Timothy 2:15

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

IV. Share

A. The Gospel

Mark 16:15

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

B. The Goals of God

Philippians 3:16-17

16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

IV. Share

C. In the spiritual growth of others

1 Thessalonians 5:11-14

11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

*Let Us Keep
It Simple*