



**Riverbluff Church Listening Guide**  
**July 24, 2022**

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*Jesus Answers Life's Toughest Question, pt 3*

***“WHO IS THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN?”***

**Matthew 18:1-5**

**Matthew 18:1-5 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” <sup>2</sup> And calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup> and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup> “Whoever receives one such child in My Name receives Me.

**PARALLEL PASSAGES**

**{MARK 9:33-37 & LUKE 9:46-48}**

**BIG IDEA**

**GREATNESS = CHILDLIKE**

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**Matthew 18:1 (ESV)**

“At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

**Mark 9:30-34 (NLT2)**

<sup>30</sup> Leaving that region, they traveled through Galilee. Jesus didn't want anyone to know He was there,<sup>31</sup> for He wanted to spend more time with His disciples and teach them. He said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of His enemies. He will be killed, but three days later He will rise from the dead.” <sup>32</sup> They didn't understand what He was saying, however, and they were afraid to ask Him what he meant. <sup>33</sup> After they arrived at Capernaum and settled in a house, Jesus asked His disciples, “What were you discussing out on the road?” <sup>34</sup> But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest.

**Luke 9:47-48 (ESV)**

“But Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by His side...”

## 1) JETTISON \_\_\_\_\_!

### **Matthew 20:20-21 (TLB)**

“Then the mother of James and John, the sons of Zebedee, brought them to Jesus and respectfully asked a favor. ‘What is your request?’ He asked. She replied, ‘In Your Kingdom, will You let my two sons sit on two thrones next to Yours?’”

### **1 Corinthians 12:24-25 (ESV)**

“God has so composed the body...that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.”

### **John 10:10 (ESV)**

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

### **2 Corinthians 10:12 (NIV)**

“When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise.”

### **Matthew 18:2-3 (ESV)**

“And calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

## 2) MAKE \_\_\_\_\_!

### **Matthew 18:3**

"Truly I say to you, unless you are converted..." (NASB)

"I tell you the truth, unless you change..." (NIV)

### **Matthew 4:17 (ESV)**

“From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

### **Acts 2:38 (ESV)**

“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

### **Matthew 5:3 (ESV)**

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

**Matthew 18:4 (ESV)**

“Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

**3) LEARN FROM THE \_\_\_\_\_ !**

**Matthew 5:5 (NLT2)**

“God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.”

**Isaiah 11:6 (ESV)**

“... and a little child shall lead them.”

**Ephesians 5:1-2 (ESV)**

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us...”

**Romans 12:3 (AMP)**

“I warn everyone among you not to estimate and think of himself more highly than he ought [not to have an exaggerated opinion of his own importance], but to rate his ability with sober judgment, each according to the degree of faith apportioned by God to him.”

**Matthew 18:5 (ESV)**

“Whoever receives one such child in My Name receives Me.”

**4) \_\_\_\_\_ FOR JESUS!**

**Romans 15:7 (NIV)**

“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.”

**Romans 14:1 (NLT2)**

“Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don’t argue with them about what they think is right or wrong.”

**Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV)**

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind...  
And Love your neighbor as yourself.”

**Colossians 4:5-6 (NLT2)**

“Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.”