



## “CLUES YOU ARE A HEALTHY KINGDOM CITIZEN, PART 2”

Series: “RELIGIOUS OR CHRISTIAN?”, Part 3 of 4

Sunday, September 22, 2024, at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Text: Matthew 18:1-14

**Big Idea: Greatness in the kingdom is never found by looking for it; it’s found in seeking to walk humbly with God.**

Matthew 18:1-2, At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a little child and had him stand among them.

Matthew 18:3, And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

### **I. A HUMBLE PERSPECTIVE REGARDING WHO I AM.**

Matthew 18:4, “Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

**Healthy kingdom citizen’s perspective: “I am an unworthy servant saved by grace.”**

James 4:10, “Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”

1 Peter 5:6, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time.” {NASV}

Matthew 23:12, “For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 17:9-10, “Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

### **II. A HUMBLE PERSPECTIVE REGARDING MY INFLUENCE.**

**Healthy kingdom citizen's perspective: "I truly want my life to be a bridge to Jesus, not a barrier."**

Matthew 18:5-6, "And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. 6 But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea."

1 Kings 13:18, The old prophet answered, "I too am a prophet, as you are. And an angel said to me by the word of the Lord: 'Bring him back with you to your house so that he may eat bread and drink water.'" (But he was lying to him.)

1 Kings 13:21b, "You have defied the word of the Lord and have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you."

Matthew 18:8-9, "If your hand or your foot causes you to sin cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell."

### **III. A HUMBLE PERSPECTIVE REGARDING MY PRIORITIES.**

Matthew 18:10, "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven."

Matthew 18:12-14, "What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost."

**Healthy kingdom citizen's perspective: "I'm willing to take some risks and make some efforts to go after lost sheep."**