



The Way of Humility

Brent Moody · Matthew 18:1–35 · Series: **The Way of Jesus**

INTRODUCTION

- Chapter 18, which many think of as what we might call his community charter. This is what his people are supposed to be like, how they're supposed to live.
- The kingdom of heaven is not driven by greatness, not in the way the world thinks, or pride, or self-glory or power or status, or the advantage one can gain over others.
- The foundation of Jesus' community is childlike humility. A type of love and humility that will lead a community if they act this way to protect themselves from threat and to seek the well-being of all.

1 Greatness Comes Through Childlike Humility

Matthew 18:1–5

- Greatness, if we want to call it that, is going to come through humility, not in self-elevation.
- Jesus is trying to help them understand the need to recapture that childlike heart that's not so worried about their own status and where they stand with everybody else.
- Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest.
- This is not about you getting attention and glory and power. This is about helping people.

2 Seeking the Good of Those in Our Community

Matthew 18:6–9

- Sometimes it is things that happen that cause people to be offended, or even more so, it's sort of like laying a trap.
- If we're part of God's kingdom and we're his people, we shouldn't be laying traps for people. We shouldn't be seeking someone's downfall, trying to create problems for them.
- We ought to be seeking the good of those in our community.
- Everybody else is not a pawn in my story for my own personal glory. That's not how Jesus' kingdom works.

3 We See the Value of Other People

Matthew 18:10–14; Matthew 18:5; Leviticus 19

- It's not just that we are seeking good for others, but we also see the value, the inherent value in who they are.
- When you look at them, we shouldn't despise or look down on, look with contempt or even avoid certain people.
- They want to be great. And when you want to be great, what do you do? You look down on other people.

- When we welcome the small or the seemingly unimportant, when we welcome each other in the name of the Lord, we are welcoming him.

4 How You Deal with a Brother Who Is in Sin

Matthew 18:15–20

- Problems are rarely solved when we cater to feelings apart from facts.
- If he listens to you have gained your brother. That concept there is the idea of acquiring by effort, or I like this other word, investment.
- The way these steps work is you go to the person individually, you bring a couple witnesses with you, and then you tell it to the assembly if there are problems.
- The whole path is there to minimize shame and embarrassment.
- The point here again is not to shame, it is to gain. It's to restore and to have reconciliation.

5 Should Not You Have Had Mercy?

Matthew 18:21–35; James 2:13

- What he's trying to help us see through this story here is how hypocritical it is to not do what he's talking about.
- He was just forgiven 60 plus million days' wages, and now he's choking somebody and attacking them for not paying him a hundred days wages.
- Should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant as I had mercy on you.
- Judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.
- While it may give me a warped sense of greatness to judge others as below me, it actually only reveals the place in my heart that has not been fully surrendered to Jesus.

THE CHALLENGE

I want us to see the beauty of what Jesus is doing for us. He wants us to live in harmony. He wants us to be a community that loves each other.

MY NOTES
