The Measure Of Greatness Matthew 18:1-14

"I know of NO GREAT man or woman except those who have <u>Offered</u> GREAT service to the <u>NEXT GENERATION</u>..."

WHAT MAKES A CHRISTIAN GREAT? (Matthew 5:19)

To become GREAT, Jesus tells us we must...

1. CHANGE & BECOME LIKE CHILDREN (vv.2-3)

- Many today are so <u>Heavenly Minded</u> they're NO <u>Earthly Good</u>.
- "Convert" means to <u>Turn</u> from your <u>Conduct</u> & way of <u>Thinking</u>.
- We are NOT to be ChildISH in how we <u>Act</u> & <u>Think</u>...But we ARE to be Child<u>LIKE</u> in the way we <u>Think</u> & <u>Relate</u> to God & others.
- Jesus teaches we're to "GROW" to be like "Children."

2. BE HUMBLE AS CHILDREN (v.4)

- True Humility <u>Avoids</u> two extremes...thinking <u>LESS</u> of yourself than you ought & thinking <u>MORE</u> of yourself than you ought.
- Jesus wants you to <u>Identify</u> with children
- We must have the MIND OF CHRIST. (Philippians 2:5-8)

3. CONNECT WITH CHILDREN (v.5)

- "Receive" means to "take by the <u>Hand</u>," "to become <u>Friends</u> with," "<u>Listen</u> to," "to <u>Embrace</u>," "to <u>Bear</u> with."
- Jesus "Received" little children in this way. (Mark 10:13-16)
- Whatever is done for the <u>Child</u> is <u>Accounted</u> as if done for the <u>Master</u>.

4. BE A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR CHILDREN (vv.6-9)

- Anyone who Tempts a child to sin incurs Enormous Condemnation.
- To Lead a child into sin, Destroy his innocence & Corrupt his mind is Inexcusable!
- If we Want our kids to go to heaven, we better Lead them there...BY EXAMPLE.

WE MAKE CHILDREN OUR PRIORITY (vv.10-14)

- Jesus <u>Warns</u> us NOT to <u>Turn</u> our backs on children.
- ...Jesus came to Save that which was LOST.
- If children are important enough to engage <u>Angels</u>, the <u>Lord Jesus</u> & God the <u>Father</u>, then <u>Clearly</u> they should be important to <u>US</u>...
- TODAY IS C.I.A. Commitment Sunday... Can GOD COUNT on YOU?