

INTRODUCTION

- * In our series studying the book of Matthew, we have seen the importance of Jesus' initial declaration to the nation of Israel: "Change the way you think, for the Kingdom of the Heavens has drawn near!" He has continually challenged His disciples and those around Him to reevaluate how they think regarding various topics.
- * Today, we see the juxtaposition of two character traits - greatness and humbleness - that seem to be contradictory according to the evaluation of the world but in the kingdom of God are joined together.

INSTRUCTION ... The Necessity of Humility ...**I. IN THE KINGDOM OF M_____****A. The Recognition of our S_____ (cf. 17: 25-26)**

1. WE ARE C_____ OF THE KINGDOM! (cf. Philippians 3:17-21; Ephesians 2:1-6, 19; Colossians 1:13-14)
2. WE ARE R_____ OF THE KINGDOM! (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Acts 1:8)
3. WE ARE H_____ OF THE KINGDOM! (cf. 1 John 3:1-2; John 1:12; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 4:4-7)

B. The Need for our S_____ (cf. 17: 27)

- * cf. Matthew 22:15-22; Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:11-25; Philippians 2:5-8

II. IN THE KINGDOM OF H_____**A. The Q_____ of Greatness (cf. 18:1)****B. The S_____ of Greatness (cf. 18:2-5): _____**

1. THE M_____ OF TRUE HUMILITY:
 - a. The Call to "Turn"
 - b. The Call to "Become" (cf. Micah 6:8; 1 Peter 5:5-7; James 4:10)
2. THE E_____ OF TRUE HUMILITY:
 - a. The S_____ of Children
 - b. The S_____ of Children

INTROSPECTION

- * WHAT IS YOUR VIEW OF PAYING TAXES? IS IT "CHRIST-LIKE"?
- * WOULD OTHERS CONSIDER YOU TO BE A HUMBLE PERSON?
- * HOW MUCH OF A STRUGGLE IS IT FOR YOU TO SUBMIT TO OTHERS?
- * WHAT IS YOUR VIEW OF CHILDREN? IS IT CHRISTLIKE?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND THEREFORE ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

It may be helpful to re-read the passage before the discussion.

- * Considering Matthew 17:24-27, along with Romans 13:1-7, to what extent should we as individuals, and/or as an assembly, submit to the dictates of human government?
- * Considering Matthew 18:1-5, how does/should Jesus' teaching affect the way churches operate - in relation to children?