

Getting into Our LivesGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Does it ever feel like some people might have a special status with God? Do you ever think that Jesus might love you more than another believer? What from this discussion sheds light on these thoughts?
2. How has the issue of status been an “idol” that you have followed after? What would it look like for status to take a back seat in your life?
3. What do you sense God prompting you to do today to humble yourself, to become more like a little child?

Getting Out the GospelGroup time - 10 minutes

Keep practicing sharing your “Stories of Life Change” (Testimonies) and keep studying the simple gospel outline you put together from four weeks ago. Here are some potential ways to turn an ordinary conversation into a spiritual conversation:

- *Do you have a background in religion? If so, what was it like?*
- *Was there ever a time you believed in God? If so, why do you think it changed?*
- *How important is spirituality to your life now?*
- *If God exists, would it be important for you to get your life right with Him?*
- *Do you put Jesus in the same category as other religious figures? Why or why not?*
- *What experiences have most shaped your spiritual life?*
- *What do you understand the core of the Christian message to be?*

Find these and more at www.seanmcdowell.org

Getting into PrayerGroup time - 10 minutes

Reach: *Pray that our humility would shine brightly in a world focused on status.*

Grow: *Pray that we would daily lean on God for life and leading.*

Empower: *Pray for relationships to form at our church that would inspire humility and life-long learning.*

Descend into Greatness

Matthew 18:1-9

1. **Pecking Order Matters (To Us)** *Matthew 18:1*
2. **Location Matters (To Us)** *Matthew 18:2-3*
3. **Humility Matters (To Christ)** *Matthew 18:4*
4. **Children Matter (To Christ)** *Matthew 18:5-6*
5. **In the World, But Not of the World** *Matthew 18:7*
6. **Descend into Greatness** *Matthew 18:8-9*

Accept the Challenge:

I never knew:

I need to change:

I should share:

GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

Week of March 10, 2019

Getting StartedGroup time - 15 minutes

1. What have been some times in your life where you felt that you had been in a position of status or importance?
2. When have you desired special status, but have been unable to achieve it?
3. What kind of people are considered important in the church? Why?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting into God's WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read Matthew 18:1-5

1. Does the disciples' question surprise you? Why or why not?
2. How does Jesus respond to their question?
3. What is the connection between a little child (think, toddler) and humility?

3. What is the relationship between humility and the Kingdom of God?
See also: Matthew 5:3

4. Looking at verse 5, how are we to relate to other believers (those who have "become like children")?

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Jesus redefines greatness as humility. How does this contrast with our world? How does this contrast with how you live in our world?

Read Matthew 18:6-9

5. Who are the "little ones"? How would you characterize Jesus' attitude toward those who cause them to sin?
6. How does this behavior contrast to what we saw in verses 1-5?
7. What do we need to do about our own temptation and sin?

Read Romans 5:1-2,6-11

8. How are we saved from our sin?