

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Pray the Lord's Prayer together or individually to begin the time (Mtt 6:9-13).

Share with the Group

Do you remember a time as a child when you felt particularly welcomed or valued by a community (or unwelcomed and unvalued)? Describe it.

Read Matthew 18:1-10

What are the disciples asking Jesus? Why do they ask this?

How do they expect Jesus to respond?

How does Jesus respond?

What does it mean to "enter the Kingdom of Heaven"?

Is the Kingdom a present reality, a future reality, both? Explain.

What does Jesus mean when he says to become like children?

What role does humility play here?

Why is this a requirement for entering the Kingdom?

What does it mean to welcome a child? How does this connect to Jesus?

What does it mean to "scandalize" a child, or cause them to sin/fall away?

What are specific examples of this?

Why is it so serious?

Why does Jesus use such radical language about addressing sin/falling away?

What does this look like in practice?

What keeps us from taking radical actions in pursuit of holiness?

Think Together

If the Church is meant to be a community built by Jesus, how should these teachings inform how we live with one another? What would they look like lived out?

Practice It!

How can you be more humble and childlike in your interactions?

What practical (and radical) steps do you need to take against sin?

How can you take responsibility for spiritually and physical safeguarding kids in our community?

What other vulnerable groups of people do you need to honor, protect, and elevate? What specific steps can you take to do this?

Close by reading **Psalms 8** as a prayer and praise

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