

**Sovereign Grace Church**  
**“Learning from Kids” outline**  
February 10, 2019

**Matthew 18: 1-5**

*Jesus' disciples, except for Judas, lived courageous lives and died committed to their Savior....But they didn't start out that way. They would probably not have impressed Jesus' worldly counterparts. They were stubborn, prideful and as concerned with appearance as much as anyone else.*

*But they saw something in Jesus that they couldn't find anywhere else. Many teachers thought they knew what a person had to do to have a blessed life. But Jesus presented the blessed life from a completely different angle. For Jesus it was not merely a matter of what you did....but rather why you did it. It wasn't what you had to do....it was who you wanted to be. Jesus started with very imperfect men and began to refashion them to reflect His divine character as they lived out their earthly lives. As the disciples trudged along the path of learning with their teacher, one of the questions that they found time to argue about was who would be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. And this took place well after Jesus had given His sermon on the mount.*

*So who is the greatest in Christ's Kingdom? On one occasion Jesus used a very young child to teach them about true greatness. We will look at that occasion this morning....and then see if we can't make a connection to baptism.*

1. Is it wrong to want to succeed and have influence? v. 1  
Gen. 1: 26
  
2. What are the standards of greatness according to the Flesh?  
Rom. 12:21; Lk 9: 54-55

- 3. What are the standards of greatness according to Jesus? vv. 2-4  
Lk 9: 23-24; Matt. 20: 25-28; Matt 6:44**

**Concluding Thought: Matt 28: 19**

### **Questions for Conversation and Reflection**

- 1. Have you or are you “great” at something? How do/did you know? Isn't it normal to want to be great at what you do? Is Jesus really saying that we shouldn't want to be a great person in His kingdom? Or is He actually teaching us what it means to be great!?**
- 2. Are you a humble person? Again, how do you know? Do people you associate with regularly regard you as a humble person? Doesn't being humble mean that you let other people walk all over you? Didn't Jesus let people walk all over Him?!**
- 3. How can you be both “humble” and “great”? Aren't they rather contradictory? Can you be humble and know...even confess...that you are humble? Cf., Acts 20: 17-19**
- 4. Have you learned anything from your children....even if they weren't trying to really teach you anything? What was it?**
- 5. What does baptism have to do with being great in the Kingdom of Heaven?**