MATTHEW: THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

Do Not Despise One of These Little Ones

Matthew 18:10-14

| A Pointed (| Command | (10a) |) |
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See that you do not *despise* one of these little ones.

A Heavenly Reason (10b)

For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

A Parabolic Reason (12-13)

What do you think?

If a man has a hundred sheep, and *one* of them has gone astray, does he not *leave* the ninety-nine on the mountains and *go in search* of the one that *went astray*?

And if he *finds* it, truly, I say to you, he *rejoices* over it *more than* over the ninety-nine that *never* went astray.

| A Fatherly Reason (14) | |
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| So it is <i>not the will</i> of my Father who is in heaven | |
| that one of these little ones should perish. | |
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| Application/Participation | |
| What makes every one of us significant, and that in which we should find our ultimately identity, is who we are in ChristSelah | |
| • Who are those who you are most tempted to "despise" or look down on? | |
| • What can we do better as a church to manifest this reality? Lift up our eyes | |
| • This "lost one" retrieval is not merely the responsibility of pastors, but of the whole church. | |
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