

TEACHINGS FROM JESUS

LESSON 1: WHO IS THE GREATEST?

After completing this lesson, the children will understand that God honors those who are humble.

TOPICS

Humility, Kindness, Love, Pride

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 minutes)

Who is the Greatest (Activity)

OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISE (5 minutes)

MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:4 NIV

Follow along as I read the memory verse to you. Now, let's read it as a class. I would like you to read it one more time to yourself and think about the meaning of this verse.

Discussion Questions:

1. How is a child humble? *(Allow for children to respond.)*
2. According to scripture, who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven? *(The person who is humble.)*

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION (15 minutes)

Introduction:

In today's lesson, we are learning about who Jesus says is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. We are going to read scripture from two different authors in the Bible.

Read Mark 9:33-37 (Who is the Greatest?)

Discussion Questions:

1. What were the disciples arguing about on the side of the road? *(Which of them would be the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.)*
2. Why do you think they were arguing about it? *(Allow for discussion.)*
3. Could the disciples have been struggling with pride? *(Allow children to respond.)*
4. Who did Jesus say was the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven? *(He who is humble.)*

Read Matthew 18:1-5 (Who is the Greatest?)

Discussion Questions:

1. According to Matthew, how can we be like a child and humble ourselves? *(We are to be like a child and take on a lowly position.)*
2. How can we remain humble like a child? *(Remember that God is bigger, greater, and smarter than all our circumstances; Prefer the needs of others above our own; and love our neighbors as we love ourselves.)*
3. Why do you think God honors those who are humble above those who are prideful? *(They are demonstrating the character of Christ. They are following one of the greatest commands.)*
4. Do you think you are humble and remaining childlike? If yes, how? If no, how can you work on it? *(Allow children to respond.)*

CLASS EXERCISE (10 minutes)

Pick Your Order (Game)

ALTERNATE CLASS EXERCISE (15 minutes)

Serve Like Jesus (Activity)

APPLICATION (4 minutes)

Today, we learned the differences between humility and pride. We found that God sees those who are humble as the greatest in His Kingdom. We also discovered that Jesus came to serve, not to be served, and that we are to do the same.

NEXT WEEK

Come back next week to learn why it is important for us to keep our promises.

CLOSING PRAYER (2 minutes)