



Daily Reflections

August 14, 2018

Scripture

Matthew 18: 1-5, 10, 12-14

The disciples approached Jesus and said,

“Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?”

He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said,

“Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven.

Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.

And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones,

for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.

What is your opinion?

If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray?

And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it than over the ninety-nine that did not stray.

In just the same way, it is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost.”

Our Scripture Reflection

The disciple's question to Jesus is an indication that they have a long way to go before they will develop true faith. Jesus uses the example of a child not because children were innocent or faith filled, but because they were considered of little value in society. Their perceived worth, unlike modern times, was based on their ability to produce work. Jesus' message to the disciples is stark but clear: If you want to be of importance in His Kingdom make yourself as nothing. What a difficult message for our society which puts an inordinate emphasis on high self-esteem.

Food for your Journey

Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility.

--Saint Augustine.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Help me to learn and accept what You see as of great importance in your Kingdom. May I work to become humble as You are humble. May I begin by turning my life completely over to You. Amen