

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

It Begins At Home - Week 1

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Introduction

Jesus responds to James and John jostling for position with a response neither was expecting, that a little child is the greatest, and that unless they become like one they will never enter the Kingdom. Continuing the thought Jesus makes it clear the responsibility to not cause little ones to stumble is with all of us, and the consequences terrifying.

Bible Passage

Matthew 18:1-6

Discussion

1. What have you understood by 'Kingdom of Heaven'?
2. Have you ever considered how the Kingdom of Heaven is evidenced in your life? In the life of your family?
3. Is Jesus referring only to the danger of causing a child to stumble? Or is He referring also to those who 'become like little children'? Are there times when you have stumbled in your following of Jesus?
4. Take a moment to pray. Ask God if you have caused others to stumble. Ask God for forgiveness.
5. Have you shared your anxieties with others before taking them to God? (1 Peter 5:7). Is it possible sharing your stresses and worries have caused others anxiety too?
6. As a parent have you considered how your language and tones can share your worries with your children? Discuss ways to help one another with this.



Respond

Consider those issues which are causing you to worry or be anxious, write them down with today's date. Now commit all that is written to God, allowing the Kingdom of God to be present in you and these issues. Continue throughout the week to pray whenever these issues resurface. Be aware of these issues creeping in to conversation with your children around, ensure your language and tone are not amplifying anxiety in the home.