

Foundations For Living

Laying Foundations Today For a Brighter Tomorrow

FOUNDATIONS NEWS

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WHO WILL BE THE GREATEST? by Linda Ensley



As a child, did you ever play the game King of the Hill? The game involves a race up a hill to see who can be the king, the top dog, the ultimate winner. On the way up the hill it is perfectly permissible to trip the other runners, pull on their shirt to topple them over or even shove them to the side. The one who is the strongest and fastest and sometimes the meanest reaches the top first and is declared the king of the hill.

Here in the United States we have just seen such a race. We have seen candidates running for office who have all tried to out-shine each other in that race to the top of the hill. Each one has been telling us why they are the greatest, while doing what they could to discredit the other candidate running against them.

Over 2000 years ago there was a group of men doing the same thing. Matthew 18:1 records:

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

The disciples of Jesus argued as to which one of them would be the greatest. At this point in time they were still believing that Jesus was going to set up an

earthly kingdom that would release them from the authority of the Roman government.

What they wanted to know was who should be advanced to the highest position in that kingdom, next to Jesus. They had no doubt that it would fall on one of them. They each wanted to have that place of the greatest trust and they desired to know who it would be. We are not told who was asking the question, but we can assume that no one wanted to play second fiddle. Every one of them wanted to be first.



What the disciples did not know was that Jesus fully understood the condition of their hearts. He must have known that some had jealousy toward Peter, James and John who were often singled out to accompany Jesus while the rest remained. Some may have been unforgiving and others could have simply been anxious for Jesus to set up His kingdom. So once again Jesus used an illustration to correct their thinking.

He called a little child and had him stand among them. And He said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles Himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:2-4

What does it mean to change and become as a little child?

Children are trusting, humble and dependent on the adults in their lives to provide for them. They need shelter, food, and direction. Children need their parents to support them in the areas of emotional and spiritual growth. Children do not carry any impressive credentials or hold claim to any outstanding accomplishments. They are humble and trusting and willing to learn.

Jesus was telling His disciples that they needed to change their attitude. They must not try to become more important than their peers. What was important was that they must be humble and they needed to trust Him completely.

Many people today have little confidence or faith in anyone or anything. Surely we, too, need to be as humble and trusting as little children. We do not need to be puffed up with our self importance. We should daily come to Jesus as a little child, confessing our sin and asking for a renewed spirit and attitude of humility.



Something **BIG** is happening at FFL's Community Clothing Closet



We will be closed the week after Christmas.

Our Grand reopening will be on January 3rd 2017



SEE YOU THERE



Get the word out !!!!!!!

Our Warming Center is now open.

We need you to help be a Hospitality Host or Overnight Host. Please Call

[715-942-2725](tel:715-942-2725) and talk to Robin Hess

about your opportunity to volunteer

