

"JESUS AND THE LITTLE CHILDREN" from Pitts Chapel United Methodist Church, Springfield, Missouri.)

Matthew 18: 1-4

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

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."



LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN

"Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" the Lords disciples wanted to know

Their question being selfish as well as proud, a child was used to help them grow

Positions of advantage, Jesus knew they sought, over service to others instead

The opposite view of little children, who are weak, dependent and eager to be led.

You can never please God by outward actions, if it's purity of heart you lack

For He esteems the one who is humble, and will gently lift him up on track

Do nothing out of vain conceit, but always with an open and loving heart

Considering all others better than you, ready to serve them at each day's start.

May compassion freely flow to those around who are broken alone and lost

Truly helping all whose needs are great, no matter to you the personal cost

May we be your transformed people, filled with love hope and grace

Spreading the message of your heavenly kingdom, throughout the human race.

Unless you become like little children, God's kingdom you will not enter

For man's worth comes from God alone, with Him at the core and center

Seek the Lord while He can be found; call on Him while He is near

Humbly bowing at the foot of the cross, with a heart that's contrite and sincere.