

Treasure Hunt

- What does it mean to “enter the kingdom of heaven”?
- How can we enter the kingdom?
- What characteristic marks those who are greatest in the kingdom?
- Where is this characteristic emphasized later in the NT?
- Who are the “little children” or the “little ones” in this chapter?
- What does it mean to “offend” one of the little ones?
- Where is the Lord’s warning about offending others echoed later in the NT?
- What kind of offense should we not seek to avoid?

The Lord's Five Discourses

5-7, Sermon on the Mount	7:28-29 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings , the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29 For he taught them as <i>one</i> having authority, and not as the scribes.
10, Missionary Discourse	11:1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities.
13, Parables	13:53-54 And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables , he departed thence. 54 And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue
18, Life in the Body	19:1 And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these sayings , he departed from Galilee, and came into the coasts of Judaea beyond Jordan;
24-25, Olivet Discourse	26:1-2 And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings , he said unto his disciples, 2 Ye know that after two days is <i>the feast of the passover</i> , and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.

17:22-20:16 Life in the Kingdom

17:22-18:35 Final Lessons in Galilee

17:22 while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said ...

Private instruction to the disciples

Common theme: **offense to others**

17:22-23 Second passion prediction

17:24-27 The disciple and the Temple

18:1-35 Relations with other disciples

19:1-20:16 Teaching by the way

19:1 Jesus ... departed from Galilee, and came into the coasts of Judaea beyond Jordan

Public instruction, involving the multitudes (v.2)

Common theme: **ruling ourselves**

19:3-12 Divorce: Lust of the Flesh

19:13-15 Little Children: Pride of Life

19:16-20:15 Riches: Lust of the Eyes

Life in the Kingdom

Introduced by the Second Passion Prediction

Relations with Other Disciples

18:1-35 Relations with other disciples

1-4 Question and Answer

Q: 1 Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

A: The Lord divides the question

- 2-3 answers, "Who is in the kingdom?"
- 4 answers, "Who is greatest?"

5-14 Do not give offense

5-9 The Principle

10-14 The Parable: The Lost Sheep

15-35 Dealing with the sin of others

15-20 The Principle

21-35 The Parable: The Two Debtors

Mat 13:41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom

- all things that **offend**,
- and them which **do iniquity**;

Who are the “little children”?

18:2 And Jesus called a **little child** **παιδιον** unto him, and set him in the midst of them, 3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as **little children**, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 And whoso shall receive one such **little child** in my name receiveth me.

11:16 But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto **children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows**, 17 And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented.

18:6 But whoso shall offend one of these **little ones μικρος** **which believe in me**, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and *that* he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

18:10 Take heed that ye despise not one of these **little ones**; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

18:14 Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these **little ones** should perish.

Types of Believers in 10:40-42

“Receive”	“Reward”
40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.	
41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of <u>a prophet</u>	shall receive a prophet's reward ;
and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of <u>a righteous man</u>	shall receive a righteous man's reward .
42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold <i>water</i> only in the name of <u>a disciple</u> ,	verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward .

Enter the Kingdom = Enter into Life

Mark 9 (parallel to Matt 18:8-9)

43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off:	45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off:	47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out:
it is better for thee to enter into life maimed,	it is better for thee to enter halt into life,	it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye,
than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:	than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:	than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:
44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.	46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.	48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

Entering the Kingdom

= Gain Eternal Life

Mat 19:16 Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

Mat 19:23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly **enter into the kingdom of heaven**. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to **enter into the kingdom of God**.

Opposite of Hell

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ... 41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Two Requirements to Enter the Kingdom

The New Birth

18:3 Except ye **be converted**, and become as little children, ye shall not **enter into the kingdom of heaven**.

cf. Jn. 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man **be born** of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot **enter into the kingdom of God**.

Evidence of Life

5:20 For I say unto you, That except your **righteousness** shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case **enter into the kingdom of heaven**.

Humility as Greatness

Joh 13:13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, *your* Lord and Master, have washed your feet; **ye also ought to wash one another's feet.** 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

Phi 2:5 **Let this mind be in you**, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself**, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.