

# Become Like Little Children

Week of August 26, 2018

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.



## Message Recap:

Read 1 Samuel 16:7 and  
Matthew 18:1-10

Serving is always life-growing, healthy, strong and nurturing. It's Jesus-dependent, not co-dependent. It is living with vulnerability with strong boundaries that makes life more, not less. True serving is grace-based, hope filled and joyfully Christ revealing. Yet, when it comes to our families, we react out of our broken. We act out of our tired. We act out of our broken. Children have a special place in the heart of the Father. With God, everything is about the heart, and a child's heart is innocent, unassuming, curious and loving. So when we think about serving our family, and especially our children, we need to think from Scripture, not from culture and not from our broken. We can better understand what Jesus meant by Matthew 18 if we become like children. If we become God's child, we will live it out by blessing God's children (and aren't we all God's children?).

## Pray

Father, you love us so much that you call us your children. You also tell us that we must become like children to truly understand your Kingdom. Help me understand what it means to become like a child in front of you. And then let me love my children, and your children, from that understanding.

## Getting Started

- What was your favorite game to play as a child? Why?
- As an adult, what was the last game you played with a child in your life?

## Digging Deeper

1. Why is it important to talk about serving our children in a conversation about being a servant of Jesus?
2. Give an example of parenting out of broken, or tired, or anger. What kind of effect does this have on children?
3. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. Unpack "The Lord does not look at the things people look at." What does this statement mean to you? What does it mean in Kingdom terms?
4. Why do you think children are so important to God?
5. What does it mean to change and become like little children (Matthew 18:3)? How would you have to change? What are some characteristics of being a child do you think God wants to see us have in our lives?
6. How will you apply this lesson to serving the children in your life? How will you better serve God's children?

## Living Jesus

If we truly experience the supernatural work of grace through a faith that is "all-in" in Jesus, we can start life over living a different way - with the heart of a child. If we keep and maintain that heart we can live our purpose and serve the interests of Jesus instead of becoming a cynical, broken adult who devalues his children. To grow in the Kingdom with the heart of a child is to grow the heart of a child in the people around you (especially the young ones). In Jesus, it's never too late to begin again. If you let the whole wreck of your life, crash into the infinite love of God, you'll see an explosion of joy that will never let you be the same again.

## What's Your Story?

Do you a story about changing or becoming like a child, or about changing the way you interact with the children in your life? Would you be willing to share it with us to help encourage others in their marriages? If so, please follow the instructions below.

>> Go to [SevernRunner.info](http://SevernRunner.info) and choose the Stories tile. Then follow the link provided to share your own story; we will even connect you with a writer to help you.