

Tough Talk – The Hard Sayings of Jesus

Week 9 - Lifegroup Questions

Icebreaker: Which of Jesus 'hard sayings' have you found the most challenging over these past 9 weeks, and why?

Read Matthew 18:1-5

- Why do you think the disciples were so concerned with who would be considered the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? Is there a difference between pride and ambition?
- Jesus said "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."
 1. In what way/ways are we to become like little children?
 2. How does not becoming like little children prevent us from entering the kingdom of heaven?
(Something important to consider here is what Jesus means when he says the kingdom of heaven)
- Jesus said "Whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest". What does this look like for us in our daily lives?

Read Matthew 18:6-9

- Who is Jesus talking about in verse 6 and how might we cause them to stumble?
- If Jesus is talking in these verses about adopting a 'childlike humility', how might a lack of humility negatively impact those around us? (The example given on Sunday was that of 'gossip' but there are many others)
- Why do you think Jesus use such graphic and violent imagery here, is it simply shock tactics or is there a more serious side to what he is saying?
- On Sunday Dan said "We have the power to create the kingdom of heaven among us or bring about hell-on-earth" Do you agree, why/why not?
- What can we do to ensure that we remain humble? (Philippians 2:5-8 Matthew 20:25-28)