

The Sheep That Strayed Away – Matthew 18:1-6, 10-14

Intro. Follow-up on the Shrewd Manager parable

- Luke 16:8, Matthew 5:16

If we take on the character of a child and a shepherd, we will be great in the Kingdom of Heaven!

I. Humility Like A Child - Matthew 18:1-6

A. Who is the Greatest in the Kingdom?...

B. Those who become like a child.

1. Childlike humility
2. Childlike dependence
3. Childlike trust
4. Childlike disregard for social status

C. “Unless you Turn”

II. Compassion Like A Shepherd - Matthew 18:10-14

- We share our Heavenly Father’s concern for the little ones who have strayed

Intro. Sheep and Little Ones

- Matthew 9:36; 10:6, 40, 42

Question: What does it mean to be a compassionate shepherd towards someone? There are three attributes:

A. Gracious Love that goes searching – v. 12

B. Great Joy in the journey of Restoration – v. 13

1. Rejoices in finding them
2. Rejoices in the burden of bringing them back
 - Luke 15:5
3. Rejoices in their repentance
4. Rejoices in their restoration into the flock

C. Deep Concern for the little ones’ salvation – v. 14

Close and Communion

- Ezekiel 34:15-16, John 10:11, 14-16, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:24-25