

# **Studies in the Life of Christ**

## **NT Survey Lesson 22--Matthew 18**

**Introduction:** In this chapter the Lord emphasized the principles that govern the relationship of disciples with each other. Every Christian will profit by examining his attitude by the principles set forth concerning humility, example, love of souls and forgiveness. All of these things work together for the good of every local church.

**Lesson aim: To reveal how disciples should conduct themselves toward one another**

### **The need for humility--Matthew 18:1-7**

1. What question did the disciples bring to Jesus? How did He answer?
2. Did the disciples need "converting"? What does this mean here?
3. What feature of a little child did Jesus particularly emphasize?
4. What would the attitude of a humble person be toward a child?
5. What is the fate of those who cause little ones to stumble?

### **The challenge of stumbling blocks--Matthew 18:7-11**

1. What did Jesus say about stumbling blocks?
2. What measures did Jesus command to avoid causing others to stumble?
3. Why did Jesus warn concerning causing a little one to stumble?
4. Are the "little ones" of which Jesus speaks only children?

### **Love of souls--Matthew 18:12-20**

1. What is the attitude of the Father toward those who go astray?
2. What is not the will of Father?
3. What should we do when we see a brother sin?
4. To what extent should we seek his salvation?

5. When should we consider a sinning brother as we would a heathen and publican?
6. By what authority would the apostles determine the bounds of fellowship?
7. By the exercise of what kind of power would they demonstrate their authority to bind and loose?
8. Upon what principle or with what assurance would they expect God to hear their prayers?

### **The need for forgiveness--Matthew 18:21-35**

1. How many times did Peter suggest forgiveness should be granted to a brother? How did Jesus answer?
2. Describe the magnitude of the forgiveness received by the first servant.
3. Describe the attitude of the forgiven servant toward his fellow-servant.
4. What was the reaction of the master when he heard of his servant's lack of compassion?
5. What is the point of this parable for disciples?