



Small group discussion questions November 2015

Chapter & verse – Lawrence Moore (p22)

Read Matthew 18: 1-14, followed by Lawrence Moore's article.

1. Thinking back to when you were a child, in what ways was your life most different to the way it is today?
2. Lawrence mentions in the first paragraph of “Chapter & verse” that some of Jesus’ disciples had recently received special recognition. How do you suppose the others felt about this?
3. In the third paragraph, Lawrence looks at the way children were treated and thought of in the ancient world. How different is their position in our society?
4. “The ‘little ones’ are not just children, they are throwaways,” says Lawrence in paragraph four. Do you agree that Jesus is talking about more than children? What difference does this idea make to how you read this passage?
5. Asking what Jesus meant when he said: “Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the Kingdom,” Lawrence suggests in paragraph six that “it has to do with a child’s capacity to imagine”. What does imagination have to do with the Kingdom of Heaven? Do you find this a helpful way in to understanding Jesus’ words?
6. In paragraph nine, Lawrence describes “a world of Good News”. How does that description make you feel? Does it sound realistic?
7. Lawrence suggests that most of us are “unable to hear and imagine a world of Good News”. What makes it hard for us to do so? What makes it hard for you personally?
8. What can we do to become children again? Lawrence shares some ideas in the last paragraph. Do you have suggestions of your own?

