



## Matthew 18:10-14

Matt. 18:10 “Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Matt. 18:11 For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.

Matt. 18:12 “What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying?

Matt. 18:13 And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.

Matt. 18:14 Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

## Context

Note the theme of Jesus’ teaching in Matthew 18:

Vs. 1-3 ~ Jesus tells us that we must become like a **little child** before we can enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Vs. 4 ~ Jesus tells us that the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven is the one who humbles himself or herself as a **little child**.

Vs. 5 ~ Jesus says that to receive a **little child** is to receive him.

Vs. 6-9 ~ Jesus warns us against causing one of these **little ones** to sin.

## Observations & Discussion

1. Are the “little ones” in verse 10 believers or unbelievers? How did you come to your conclusion?

2. What kind of angels mentioned in vs. 10? Now compare your thoughts with Hebrews 1:13-14, Psalm 91:11, Acts 12:15 & Acts 27:23-24—what do these verses tell us about the work angels do in your life?

3. Jesus warns us against *despising* one of these little ones; what does it mean to despise someone? Who is it that you are not to despise?

4. What is Jesus’ mission? What motivates Him to pursue His mission? How does He accomplish His mission?

5. Compare vs. 14 with 1 Timothy 2:3-4, John 3:16-17 & 2 Peter 3:9; who does God want to save?

6. Based on Jesus’ example how does He want you to respond to wandering sheep? Is there someone you know who has strayed from the faith? What should you do for that person?