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The Chapel

February 23, 2025
Matthew 18:1-5; Matthew 19:13-15

1. OPEN IN PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

- Have a group member pray, inviting the Holy Spirit to lead and fill your time together.

2. GETTING STARTED: (10 MINUTES)

- Question: How has the faith of a child impacted your walk with God?

3. READ MATTHEW 18:1-5 & MATTHEW 19:13-15 TOGETHER (5 MINUTES)

- Ask one or two group members to read the passage aloud.

4. DISCUSS (30 MINUTES)

- **Kids teach us about humility, worship, and faith.**
 - a. Jesus used a child to teach His disciples about humility (Matthew 18:1-5). How do children model humility, and how can we learn from them?
 - b. How have you seen kids worship with pure, wholehearted joy? How can we recapture that kind of worship in our own lives?
 - c. Jesus said the kingdom of heaven belongs to those who have childlike faith (Matthew 19:14). What are some characteristics of a child's faith that we should strive to emulate?
- **Kids need us – to show up for them; to show them that they're loved; and to show them Jesus.**
 - a. 1 Thessalonians 2:8 emphasizes sharing not only the gospel but also our lives. How does simply "showing up" in a child's life make a lasting impact?
 - b. Children often struggle with comparison and feeling "good enough." How can we show them the unconditional love of Christ in a way that makes a difference?
 - c. Many children face anxiety, loneliness, and challenges at a young age. What are some ways we can help point them to Jesus as their source of strength and security?

Applying the Message:

- Paul emphasized preaching "Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2). How can we practically share the message of Jesus with kids in a way that is both simple and powerful?
- What practical steps can you take (individually and/or as a Small Group) to support our kids/students to grow up to be the future leaders of the church? (i.e. Committing to pray for them, volunteering in CK, walking alongside a young family, etc.).

5. CLOSING PRAYER: (15 MINS)

Take a few minutes to pray together, focusing on how God calls us to see and invest in the next generation. Invite group members to pray, as they feel led, covering the specific areas below:

- **Thank God** – Begin by thanking God for the gift of children and for the ways they reflect His kingdom—through their humility, faith, and joy.
- **Pray for Open Hearts** – Ask God to give us hearts that welcome, value, and invest in children the way Jesus did.
- **Commit to Action** – Pray for wisdom and opportunities to speak life into the kids around us, modeling faith and pointing them to Jesus.