



---

## Down in the Valleys

By Shannon Ford on December 16, 2022

**READING:** Matthew 18

As children we learned to sing *Jesus loves the little children. All the children of the world. Red and yellow, black and white. They are precious in His sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world.* Do you ever think about what Jesus said to children and what we could learn from them? In Matthew 18:1-9, we read how Jesus tells us to be more like children as we walk with Him. No one is more trusting than a little child. Even without being taught, children learn to trust their parents, to believe what their parents say, to believe they are going to be fed and clothed and taken care of. Children also know they can run to their parents whenever they are in trouble. Following Jesus and learning to trust Him and have faith like a child is so important. Your Heavenly Father wants nothing more than for you to trust Him fully and whole-heartedly, remembering that He will always take care of you no matter what.

Then He goes on to make one of the most frightening statements. Jesus says, "*but if anyone causes one of these little ones, who believe in me to sin, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea*" (Matthew 18:6). Jesus never gave a more dreadful warning than this one.

We should never be the reason someone, especially a child, chooses to turn away from Jesus. Therefore, we must remain mindful that what we say, how we live, and how we treat others is always being observed. People are watching how we represent Christ much like children watch their parents. We must live with a child-like faith that points others to Jesus because as the song says, "they are *precious* in His sight."

**PRAYER:** Lord, thank You for being such a loving, caring Heavenly Father. I pray you will help us grow in our trust and faith in You and that our faith will become more child-like as we follow You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Weekend is for catch-up and review.

**MONDAY'S READING:** Matthew 19

*Copyright © 2022 First Baptist Church, Fort Mill, SC, All rights reserved.*

Visit our website

First Baptist Church Fort Mill | 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by fbcfortmill@comporium.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!