

## GOSPEL PEARLS

# The earthly logic of power and prestige

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The disciples approached Jesus and said,  
"Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?"  
He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said,  
"Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children,  
you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven.  
Whoever becomes humble like this child  
is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.  
And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones,  
for I say to you that their angels in heaven  
always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.  
What is your opinion?  
If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray,  
will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills  
and go in search of the stray?  
And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it  
than over the ninety-nine that did not stray.  
In just the same way, it is not the will of your heavenly Father  
that one of these little ones be lost."

(Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14)