

Humble Goats

Description

Matthew 18:1-9.

In sports, and other areas of life, we now have GOATs (Greatest Of All Time). It was not enough to simply have MVPs, aces, hall of fame players, league leaders, and all-time bests. Of course, time isn't over yet. Today's GOAT may be superseded by another high achiever.

The disciples asked Jesus to settle a topic they were debating. "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" (v. 1). The kids in children's church could have answered that one! For them, the answer is always "Jesus" or "God." The disciples had Jesus right there, so why not ask Him? Jesus' answer amounts to, "Well, it's not you."

"Change and become like little children, [or] you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (v. 3), Jesus replied. You won't even get in the gate until you take "the lowly position of this child" (v. 4). Want to be the greatest in Christ's kingdom? Then become like a child. Not childish but childlike: trusting, ready to believe, wanting to please, without claiming special rights but gratefully receiving.

For those who have found heaven's peace, there is no need for trophies or special recognition. After all, we are His sheep, not goats.

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