

Title: One is the Greatest

Text: Matthew 18:1-20

Occasion: September 10, 2017 (14th Sunday after Pentecost)

Intro: One thing in common.

1) Who is the greatest?

- A) Turning PRECEDES the becoming.
- B) Turning here means "ABOUT FACE."
- C) Being in the kingdom means seeking a LOW ESTATE.

2) These Little Ones:

- A) "Be careful not to DESPISE them."
- B) "Little ones OF FAITH."
- C) Instead of trying to be NUMBER one and being the greatest, seek rather to be ONE.

3) Cut off your hand.

- A) Jesus is NOT telling us to cut off our hands or put out our eyes.
- B) If your hand sins AGAINST you.
- C) We cannot SEPARATE ourselves from our OWN SIN.
 - 1) Sin is REAL and SERIOUS business. We should be willing to pay ANY PRICE to be rid of it.
 - 2) God values our UNITY as His church.

4) Lost Little Lamb:

- A) EACH sheep is valuable.
- B) The flock is UNIFIED, it is ONE again.

5) Conflict Resolution:

- A) Seek unity and ONENESS with the offending person.
- B) It has the express purpose of bringing the person to REPENTANCE, which ultimately leads them back into FELLOWSHIP, back into ONENESS with the body.