

...whoever takes the lowly position
of this child is the greatest
in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:4 (NIV)

Matthew 18:1-6

"I can't wait to grow up!" said Haim with frustration.

"Then I'll be someone important".

"What happened?" asked Dad.

"Those big boys won't let me play soccer with them," he responded. "They say I'm too small to play."

"Ah, I understand," said Dad. "Jesus talked about that."

"Really?" asked Haim. "Jesus talked about soccer?"

"Not about soccer, but He did talk about kids," smiled Dad.

"The disciples were asking Jesus about who's the most important in the God's kingdom.

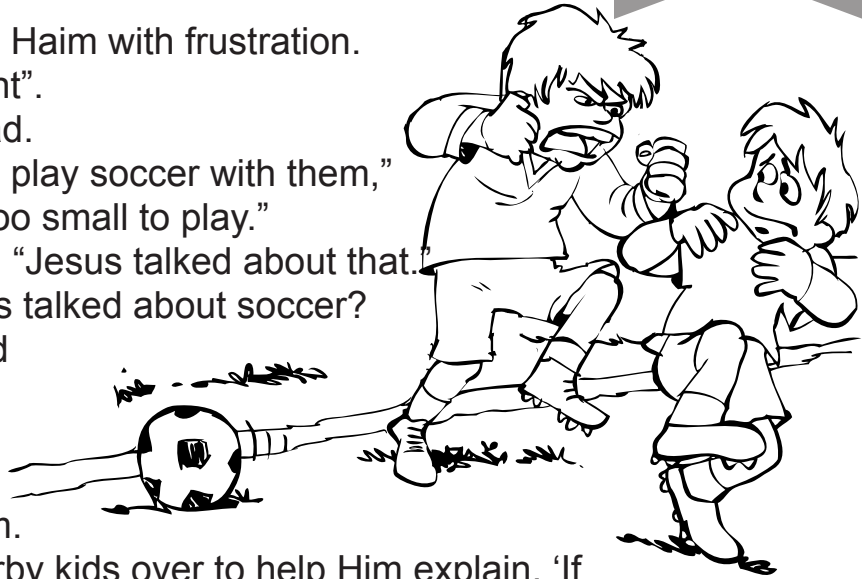
"Jesus called one of the nearby kids over to help Him explain. 'If you don't become like a small child, you won't enter God's kingdom.'

"Maybe it's because children don't have big jobs. They're humble. They trust others and they like spending time with their parents and learning from them. If we try to be important we actually lose. If we enjoy where God has us, we win.

"Haim, you are important to God and to me. Enjoy the age you are right now. It won't be long until you're bigger. Always get close to God with a child-like heart."

"Thanks, Dad." replied Haim. "I'm going to go practice in the yard."

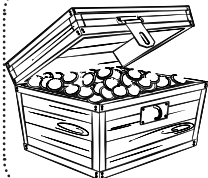
"Great!" said Dad. "I'll go with you!"



What did we discover?

- 1) Some think that children are not _____.
 IMPORTANT CAPABLE BIG
- 2) If we don't become like a child, we can't enter the _____.
 PARTY KINGDOM OF HEAVEN HOUSE
- 3) _____ are important to God.
 CHILDREN ADULTS PARENTS
- 4) I can enjoy the _____ I am right now.
 AGE TEMPERATURE SHOESIZE

How can I follow God at the age I am now?



God Loves Me.

I'm young, but I'm important to God.



**Father God,
I'm thankful
because I'm
important to You.**