

“The Follow Jesus Project”

Monday, July 27

Scriptures to read: Matthew 17:24-27, Nehemiah 10:32-33

Thoughts to consider:

The temple tax was paid by all Jewish men annually. Jesus, as the son of God, was exempt from the tax, as a king would not tax his own son. But Jesus, as an obedient Jew, paid the tax. We are shown a miracle of omniscience as Jesus knew the fish Peter would catch had swallowed a coin.

Tuesday, July 28

Scriptures to read: Matthew 18:1-5, Mark 9:33-37, Luke 9:46-48

Thoughts to consider:

What would have caused this argument about being the greatest? Three of the disciples had been selected by Jesus to go up on the mountain (at the transfiguration.) Could that have caused jealousy among the group? A team has more success when each know his role, whether a “starter” or “coming off the bench.” This is true in sports, business, the family, and the church. Envy only causes discord.

Wednesday, July 29

Scriptures to read: Mark 9:33-37

Thoughts to consider:

The disciples tried to keep their discussion hidden from Jesus, knowing He would not have approved. Are there things you are trying to keep hidden, knowing they wouldn't be approved? What should you do about that?

Thursday, July 30

Scriptures to Read: Matthew 18:2-5

Thoughts to consider:

Christians are to be like children: humble, trusting, willing to learn with no pride or arrogance. How childlike are you?

Friday, July 31

Scriptures to read: Matthew 18:6-14, Mark 9:42-50

Thoughts to consider:

Does Jesus really want us to cut off our hands and feet? No, of course not. Body mutilation does not remove temptations or make us more spiritual. He does want us to realize that avoiding temptations and resisting temptations can be painful, but must be done to avoid sin and its punishment, Hell. Note Jesus talks about Hell, affirming its reality.

Saturday, August 1

Scriptures to read:

Matthew 18:15-35

Matthew 6:15

Thoughts to consider:

Jesus gives instructions on how to handle problems between Christians. And He emphasizes the need of forgiveness. Not just our need of it from God, but our need to give it to others no matter how many times. It can't be lip service forgiveness, but must come from the heart. God knows which you are doing.

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