

## How to be a Loser

### *Step Three: Lower Your Self-Esteem*

September 13, 2009

#### **Matthew 18:10-20**

<sup>10</sup> "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>12</sup> What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup> And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup> So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup> "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup> But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

## Discussion Questions

How many of you have ever met a VIP?

How many of you have been treated as a VIP?

How do we treat them? Why?

Who do you think of when Jesus talks about the 'little ones'?

How do people 'despise' the little ones?

What does the story about God?

Why does Jesus emphasize this point?

What does this section on church discipline have to do with despising little ones or looking for lost sheep?

Is this how we really treat people in the church who have wronged us?

Why or why not?

What do these ten verses tell us about how we are to value ourselves?

What does it tell us about how we are to value others?

How do we value others as God does?