

“Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven”



Matthew 18:3

**In which ways
should we
become like
little children
and in which
ways should
we not?**



1. We should strive to regain simplicity

- Simplicity does not mean to be naïve, shallow or ignorant. “Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature” *1 Cor 14:20*



2. We need to learn the humility of the little ones

- Humility does not mean to have a weak or undetermined character.

“Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven”

Matthew 18:4



3. We ought to trust God as children do, yet work as hard as grown ups

- “casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you” *1 Peter 5:7*
- “The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.”
2 Thessalonians 3:10



4. We should be obedient to the Word of God, yet able to discern how it applies

- “...as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance”

1 Peter 1:14



5. We should love to learn as children do, yet only what edifies and nourishes

- “...as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby”

1 Peter 2:2



6. We need to learn how to forgive like children do

- “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone”

Colossians 3:13



Regarding these, we should not be like children ⁽¹⁾

1. We should not falter and follow every opinion as children: “we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine”

Ephesians 4:14



Regarding these, we should not be like children ⁽²⁾

2. We ought to take responsibility for what we do
3. We should not retain the selfishness of a child
4. We need to grow in patience and self-control

