

# SERMON OUTLINE

3745 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Sunday Morning 11/23/08

## *“The Attitude of a Child”*

- I. **Topic to be Discussed:** We MUST return to our early years:
  - A. **Matthew 18:3** - “Become like little children...”
  - B. **Luke 18:16** - “The kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”
- II. **Qualities God Wants Us to Have**
  - A. Humility: Admitting Our Need
    1. **Matthew 18:4** - Humble himself like this child...
    2. Status of children in time of Christ - lowest - **Luke 18:15**
    3. The STATUS of a child best depicts our standing before God
    4. WE NEED GOD - **Psalm 131:1-2; Acts 17:28**
  - B. Simplicity: Getting Back to the Basics
    1. As you get older: More INFORMATION to work with;  
Nicodemus: **John 3:4**; Apostles: **Matt 17:20**; Mary/Martha:  
**John 11**
    2. Why the doubt? **Matthew 14:31** “You of little faith...”
    3. Jesus Talks About Our Simple Choice: **Matthew 12:30**
  - C. Immediacy: Embracing the Moment
    1. Our attitude should be: **Matthew 6:33-34** - don't worry about tomorrow, serve God TODAY
    2. Regrets - Staring into the past - freezes my work today
    3. Dreams - Envisioning my life as I want it to be - freezes my work today
    4. **Ecclesiastes 11:6** – JUST DO IT
- III. **Developing a Child-Like Faith**
  - A. Pray: John 15:7 - ask and it will be given - HE WILL GIVE IT
  - B. Imagine Yourself as God's Child: **Zeph 3:17** - He cares for me
  - C. Draw on Your Experiences: As a child; as a parent
  - D. Live in the Now
    1. **Psa 118:24** - “Today is the day which the Lord hath made...”
    2. **Heb 3:15** - “Today if you hear His voice, do not harden...”
    3. **James 4:17** - “Knows right thing to do...”
    4. **Eph; Col** - “Make the most of your time...”
- IV. **Results of a Child-Like Faith**
  - A. Humility, Simplicity, and Immediacy produce: Peace; Joy; Increased Faith – Part of the kingdom of God
  - B. Will you humble yourself now?