

## Study Guide Questions

Series: TD12

Message: The “Little” Things

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Date: 11/13/2022



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### Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 4:7-8

Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

### Read Matthew 17:22-23

- Jesus is now repeatedly being forward about His fate in Jerusalem. How do you see progression in the disciples' response? What does this teach you about the importance of repetitious messaging?

### Read Matthew 17:24-27

- On what items/issues should we strive not to cause offense? What items/issues should we stand firm on, regardless of causing offense? In our culture that continually feels offended, how do you live this out well? (see *Colossians 4:6*)
- Your freedom is not paramount. The glory of God is more important. What do you need to lay aside for the sake of your witness? (ex. *language/joking, alcohol, speeding, politics, etc.*)
- Christ's divinity is on display as He shows control over nature and provision through it. Share about a time in your life when God acted in your life and provided for your needs.



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## Read Matthew 18:1-14

- How does a person become great in the kingdom of heaven? What does this look like within your life? Where do you want to intentionally focus on improving in how you treat “little people”?
- Do you think Jesus is just talking about little children, or could it also be applied to others? If so, who else?
- The disciples had some “lesser persons” they wanted nothing to do with: Gentiles, women, lepers, etc. Jesus doesn’t shoo these “children” away. He always received them. We all have “lesser persons” we want to shoo away. It could be a classmate who’s strange or annoying. The neighbor who’s needy or inconsiderate. It’s the person who dresses differently than you. Maybe it’s a co-worker who talks all the time or the one who always lingers around and you’ve labeled as “creepy.” Maybe it’s a family member who’s needy. When around these people, how can you respond like Christ instead of in the flesh?
- What are some things that could cause a person to sin? If you sense that you have caused someone to sin, how do you make it right? If someone has caused you to sin, what can you do to become free?
- Jesus is not promoting self-mutilation, but is rather speaking in hyperbole to encourage His listeners to deal drastically with their sin. What sin in your life do you need to cut out?
- How have you experienced the love of the Shepherd?



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