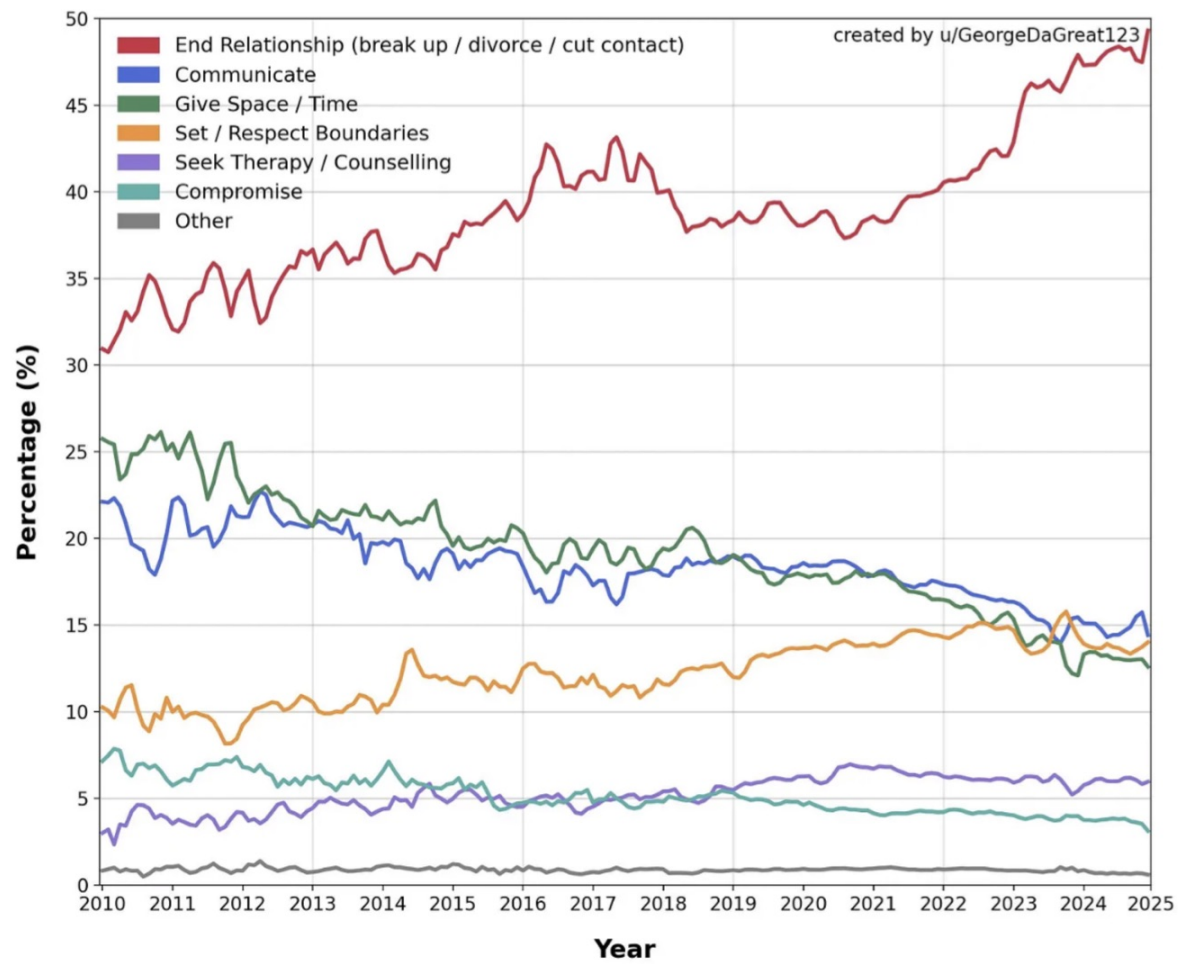


Childlike Humility - 1  
Matthew 18:1-4



## Behold the King!

### Show and Tell

1-2

Prologue

3-7

Ministry  
Begins  
(3-4)

Sermon  
on the  
Mount (5-7)

8-10

Kingdom  
Breaks In  
(8-9)

Sermon on  
the Mission  
(10)

11-13

No Middle  
Ground  
(11-12)

Sermon in  
Parables  
(13)

14-18

You Are  
the Christ  
(14-17)

Sermon on  
Relationships  
(18)

19-25

Escalation  
of Conflict  
(19-23)

Sermon on  
Mt of Olives  
(24-25)

26-28

Passion of  
Christ  
(26-28)

Great  
Commission  
(28:19-20)

Relationships . . .

1. The **basis** - childlike **humility** (1-9)

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4. The **healing** - continual **forgiveness** (21-35)

“Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” (18:1b)



“And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them.” (18:2)

“At that time Jesus declared, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding’

“and revealed them to little children; yes,  
Father, for such was your gracious will.”

Matthew 11:25-26

childlike humility =  
the **sanity** of **self-forgetfulness**

Childlike humility is made up of two parts:

Childlike humility is made up of two parts:

- **awareness** (sanity)

Humility is “knowing ourselves as creatures.”

Hannah Anderson

Childlike humility is made up of two parts:

- awareness (sanity)
- **attention** (self-forgetfulness)



“There’s nothing more awful than conscious humility, it is the most Satanic type of pride.”

Oswald Chambers

“Humility is so shy. If you begin talking about it, it leaves.”

Tim Keller

“Your patient has become humble; have you drawn his attention to the fact?”

C.S. Lewis

Union

# Humility

The Joy of  
Self-Forgetfulness

Gavin Ortlund



“Humility opens our eyes to the wonders all around us: it is sensitivity to reality, the turning of our narrow selves to the vast ocean of externality,

Union

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“and ultimately to God himself. In this way, humility is, in every circumstance, the key to joy, flourishing, and life itself.”

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How do we know childlike humility is the basis of relationships?

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Jesus expresses the necessity of humility with **start-to-finish** language.



1. You won't **enter the kingdom** without  
childlike humility. (3-4)

1. You won't **enter the kingdom** without  
childlike humility. (3-4)

Humility **begins** the relationship.

“Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

“Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:3-4

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

James 4:6

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:3

2. You won't **welcome Jesus** without  
childlike humility. (5-6)

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Humility **defines** the relationship.

“Whoever receives one such child in my  
name receives me.” (5)

“but whoever causes one of these little ones  
who believe in me to sin,

“it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.” (6)

3. You won't **live forever** without childlike humility. (7-9)

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Humility defines the relationship  
**into eternity.**

“Woe to the world for temptations to sin!  
For it is necessary that temptations come,  
but woe to the one by whom the temptation  
comes!

“And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away.

“It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire.



“And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.” (7-9)

\* Better to be a humble cripple with me in heaven than a harmful influencer without me in hell!

Jesus contrasts **the humble** vs. **the harmful**.

Three key ingredients → bully

Three key ingredients → bully

- **insecurity**

“Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.”

1 Peter 5:6-7

Three key ingredients ➡ bully

- insecurity
- **manipulation**

Three key ingredients ➡ bully

- insecurity
- manipulation
- **justification**



“So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed:

“shepherd the flock of God that is among you,  
exercising oversight, not under compulsion,  
but willingly, as God would have you;

“not for shameful gain, but eagerly;  
not domineering over those in your charge,  
but being examples to the flock.

“And when the chief Shepherd appears,  
you will receive the unfading crown of glory.  
Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to  
the elders.

“Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’”

1 Peter 5:1-5