

**Matthew**  
*Gail Arterburn –2026*

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am  
To be discussed –07/13/26

Matthew - Lesson 25  
Matthew 18:1-35

Chapter 18 contains the fourth of five discourses found in Matthew. It deals with qualities and attitudes that should characterize the transformed lives of believers – particularly in their relationship to God and to one another. Look for principles of life necessary in the church and in the kingdom of heaven, particularly humility and forgiveness.

1. Read Matthew 18:1-9. What question is asked of Jesus by his disciples? What character flaw does it reflect? How does Jesus answer their question? (v. 4)
2. Jesus is not calling them to be “childish” but to be “childlike.” What characterizes the relationship between a child to his Father (or a child of God to his Heavenly Father) that is applicable here?
3. Who are the “little ones” spoken of in vv. 5-6? How are we to treat one another? Why?
4. How serious is God about sin? What does he ask of us? (vv. 6-9)
5. Read Matthew 18:10-14. What is the main point(s) of this parable?
6. Read Matthew 18:15-20. What does Jesus teach about the necessity, the means and the ultimate purpose of reconciliation among believers? What about the practical value of unity among believers?
7. Read Matthew 18:21-22. What question did Peter ask? What was Jesus’ answer? (vv. 21-22)
8. Carefully read the parable in vv. 23-35. What was the major point? How does it apply to every believer? Is forgiveness deserved or an act of mercy and grace? What level of forgiveness does God demand? (v. 35)