

# Bible Lessons Learned in the "Hood"

## Matthew 18:1-6

- ⊕ The Bible dresses much of its message in the cloth of the human condition.
- ⊕ Additionally, especially seen in the writings of Paul, truth is presented in the context of personal life experiences (II Cor. 11:16-28; 12:7-13; etc.).
- ⊕ Jesus, the perfect example, "fleshed out" the unseen God in the life He lived before men (Jn. 1:14; 14:7-9).
- ⊕ Growing up in the neighborhood of my youth provided a number of opportunities for me to see many fundamental Bible principles lived out.
- ⊕ In that format, I share them with you.

### **The Tulip Poplar (Matt. 18:1-6)**

- ⊕ "But I was so much older then; I'm younger than that now" (Rev. 2:5).
- ⊕ "The Games People Play" (Mk. 12:14; Jn. 18:20-21).
- ⊕ Walter (I Cor. 12:19-26).
- ⊕ Suits (Matt. 23:25-28).

### **Applications**

- ⊕ We are what we are (Jn. 1:47).
- ⊕ Value is found in relationships, not things (Eph. 4:16; Eph. 5:21-6:9).
- ⊕ Helping each other out along the way is the stuff of life seen at its best (Lk. 10:29-37).
- ⊕ The *Establishment* never wins (Ps. 73).
- ⊕ Honest, unassuming transparency brings us closer to God (Matt. 5:8).

- ⊕ We forget all too easily the treasures of youthful strengths.
- ⊕ God would remind us of these things.
- ⊕ We will either be the Father's little children, or we will not be His children at all.

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