

**OCF Small Groups:** passionately pursuing God, healthy relationships with each other, and people who don't know Jesus, as part of a Gospel Community.

# Receiving The Faith

(Matthew 26:69-75, Matthew 18:1-6)

(Sunday January 21)

1.
  - a. How do we grow in our faith?
  - b. What sorts of practices do you do to grow (devotionals, prayer, fasting, evangelization, etc)?
2.
  - a. Recalling the Courtyard moment of Peter (Matthew 26:69-75), what circumstances would cause us to hide, compromise or reject our faith?
  - b. Have you been in a position to hide or compromise your faith?
  - b. How did you handle it? What happened?

3. a. What circumstances invite or tempt us to compete for attention among our brothers and sisters?

b. Do you ever find yourself competing for attention in Christian circles?

c. What sort of validation are you seeking? Why is that important to you?

4. Jesus tells his disciples “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)

What sort of humility does a child exhibit? How would that sort of humility help us follow Jesus?

5. In Matthew 18:1-6 Jesus turns the conversation on its head, turning from greatness to littleness, from grand tasks to little ones. How does Jesus charge us to be great in his kingdom, how can we grow in greatness (humility) in this small group, at OCF, in our neighborhoods (here, near, and far)?

Jesus compels us to pursue him with childlike faith. Ask the Lord today, and this week what sorts of things in our life are keeping us from seeing him through the eyes of a child. Ask him to draw us from self-confidence towards confidence in his gospel. Ask the Lord to impress upon our hearts a confidence in his love and care for us.