DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Matthew 18:10–14

Read through the passage together before you begin.

1. Look at the context in chapter 18. Who are the 'little ones'? How have we seen Jesus develop this idea of 'little ones' throughout the story of Matthew? Whom does Jesus encourage? Whom does he confront?
2. How might we in the church 'look down' on people (v. 10)? What ways was this already happening in the New Testament church? (See 1 Cor 12:21–26; Gal 3:23–29; Jas 2:1–7.)
3. Who do you think 'their angels' are in verse 10? Why? Are there other scriptures to support that?
4. Jesus tells a story of a seeking shepherd. What do you think he is trying to convey? Who is this seeking shepherd?
5. Read John 17:10–12 and Romans 8:29–30. How do these verses add color to the Father's will in v. 14?
6. How should these expressions of God's care for his children change our perspective on the people around us, especially those in the church?
7. Who is someone or a group that is easy for you to 'look down' on? Based on this text, how would you begin to change those perspectives?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

As a group, thank God for seeking and keeping his little ones, and ask him to help you see the people around you the way he sees them.