

Reflection Questions: Do I view children as Jesus does? How do I show this? How am I helping children (my own or those in the church) come to Jesus? Do I take time to talk to the children and listen to them? Do I pray for them? If not, why not start now. Do I seek ways to show genuine affection to my own children and to the children of others?

How can we pray for one another and our church this week?

Quotes to Ponder

The things which grieve us or make us indignant reveal much about the kind of people we are, and what Jesus said and did here tells us volumes about Him, as well about our children and ourselves.

R. Kent Hughes

Those who convince themselves that they deserve grace seldom seek it... No one gives grace better than a person who is convinced he needs it himself.

Paul David Tripp

How can we bring children to Jesus Christ to be blessed? We can't do it in a physical sense. For Jesus is not here, He's risen. But we can bring our children in a true, real spiritual sense. We take them up in the arms of prayer. We daily cry, "Oh, that he or she might live before Thee, Lord."

Charles Spurgeon

The one thing adults ought to concern themselves about, with respect to children, is to get out of the way and let them come to Jesus, and not to put roadblocks in their path, obstacles arising out of our own selfishness, but to let children come.

Ray Stedman



Permit the Children

Sermon
Notes

November 12, 2023

1. Setting (13a)
2. Disciples' Rebuke (13b)
3. Jesus' Indignation (14-15)
4. Blessing the Children (16)

1. What in the text/sermon impacted you? Encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you? Comforted you?

2. Read the following accounts, noting what you learn from each. Are there any contradictions? If so, how do you resolve them?

Matthew 19:13-15 —

Mark 10:13-16 —

Luke 18:15-17 —

3. Why were people bringing children to Jesus (*Matthew 19:13; Mark 10:13, 16*)?

4. Why would the disciples rebuke those bringing children to Jesus (*Mark 10:13*)?

5. How does the disciples' reaction reflect the views of the culture around them, as well as revealing their own misunderstanding of the nature of God's kingdom (see 9:33-34 and 10:35-37)?

6. Why was Jesus *indignant* (*Mark 10:14*)?

What commands does Jesus give His disciples?

What does *come to Me* mean?

How can we hinder children from coming to Jesus?

7. What does it mean that *the kingdom of God belongs to such as these* (*Mark 10:14*)?

8. What does it mean *to receive the kingdom of God like a child* (*Mark 10:15*)?

In what way(s) must we be like little children in order to enter the kingdom?

9. What *blessing* do you think Jesus gave to these children (*Mark 10:16*)?

10. What lesson did Jesus want for His disciples to learn that would shape their lives as His messengers?

11. How does this story of children coming to Jesus for blessing model the Father and the way He receives us?

12. What differences do you see between the children (*Mark 10:13-16*) and the rich man in *Mark 10:17-31*)?

13. What do the following verses tell us about all humanity, including children?

Genesis 8:20 —

Ecclesiastes 7:20 —

Psalms 51:5 —

Isaiah 48:8 —

Psalms 58:3 —

Romans 3:10-12 —

Proverbs 22:15 —

Romans 5:12 —