

Jesus and the Children

Matthew 18:1-6; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 9:46-48

Who is more important, adults or children?
This question has many answers.

Can anyone remain a child for ever?

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven, we praise You for sending Your Son to die for us. We are thankful that You love all people including children. Help us to learn from this lesson the ways to remain Your true children.



The Story

Jesus and the Children:

Jesus Teaches with Children - Luke 9:46-48; Matthew 18:1-6,10; Mark 10:13-16

Jesus Blesses Them - Luke 18:15-17; Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16

The disciples argued about who was best. Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked them about it.

The disciples asked Him, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

Then Jesus took a little child in His arms. He said, "Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will never go to heaven. Whoever is humble like a little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever treats

a little child like a Christian should, treats Me the same way and whoever treats Me kindly treats the Father the same way. Whoever is least among you will be great. But whoever tricks one of these little ones to sin is in big trouble. It would be better for him if a huge stone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the deep sea.

Another time, they also brought babies to Jesus so He could hold them and pray for them. The disciples saw the people bring the



children and told them to go away.

Jesus didn't like what He saw. He said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not make them go away. The kingdom of heaven is

made for them, too. Whoever does not have child-like faith, will not be in heaven." And He laid His hands on them and blessed them.

What the Story Tells Us

1. What were the disciples fighting about?
2. How does Jesus feel about boasting?
3. Who did the disciples tell to go away?
4. How could the disciples show Jesus they understood how to act in heaven?

Outer Aim

Jesus taught His disciples to be child-like in faith.

What God Tells Us - Mark your answers as (T) rue or (F) alse.

1. _____ Jesus knew what the disciples were thinking.
2. _____ The disciples were acting like Christians.
3. _____ Punishment is worse for people who trick children about God.
4. _____ God loves adults more than children.
5. _____ Children are sinless.

Passages

James 4:6-7 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but give grace to the humble." Therefore submit to God.

Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

**Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways acknowledge Him,
and He shall direct your paths.**

Inner Aim

A child-like faith looks to Jesus for all things.

Hymn

Read Hymn 627. In stanza one, to what are children being compared?

Your Turn - Use ideas from the story, passages, and hymn to help you complete the following activities.

What would you tell a parent who was concerned about their baby fussing in church?

How and why should a Christian become childlike?

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, in the lesson today You are telling me how precious I am to You. You assure me that Your angels are watching over me, and that I too can receive the great blessings of forgiveness and salvation that You have purchased for me. I ask Your blessing upon me today also. I ask you to bless me and help me to be humble and trusting. Remind me that I need You every day of my life. Thank You for caring for each of us, even though we are very young, and bring us all one day to live with You in heaven. Amen.