

30- A Child in the Kingdom

Mark 10:13-16

Children are the neediest of all of our society because they are dependent upon adults. Another reason is they are impressionable and influenced by our actions and treatment of them.

What priorities should we have as parents? Should we want to make our children happy for a short time or saved for eternity? Does our belief in Christ have an effect on how we value, enjoy and see children? Do children seem to magnetize to us or do they run and hide?

**I- Standing Between:**

**Mark 10:13** *And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.* There were children brought to Him. This is important because children naturally gravitate to the Lord Jesus but they do not do it on their own. They need to be brought. We should make every effort to not block them from coming, not place a stumbling block in their way.

They were brought to Jesus not just so they could stand off and say there is Jesus but so that they could be touched by Him. It was intentionally. Only Jesus touch is satisfying..

These children were unlike the blind, maimed, deaf and others that Jesus touched. They did not need a physical healing. The concern of the people that took the effort to bring these children was one of a spiritual touch.

These disciples rebuked the one who brought them for disturbing Jesus. **Mark 10:14** *But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased...* Throughout the Bible you will find that Jesus was very concerned about children. **Exodus 22:22-24** *Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. 23 If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry; 24 And my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.*

Jesus said they are a picture of God's kingdom.

**II- Such is the Kingdom:**

**Mark 10:14b** *... and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.*

There are some things about a child that stand out for us to learn from. Humility, trust, love and acceptance.

1- Humble as a child...For the most part they do not think of pride and prestige and manipulate to gain an advantage. 2- Trust like a child... Have you ever noticed how a child normally trusts very simply? When they are young for the most part they accept authority. This is the time in life when they think the parents know everything and trust them. Children expect things to be good, for people to be good.

3- Love like a child...There is nothing any more pure and precious than the love of a child.

**III- Like a Child:**

There is a statement in the next verse that has some profound implications for us and the salvation of mankind. **Mark 10:15** *Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.*

What keeps men from entering the kingdom? Many times it is pride and self-sufficiency. I can do it myself, I am as good as the next guy. The problem with this is that it will not allow men and women to trust in Christ in obedience to the gospel of faith. They always want to work or do something to earn the salvation instead of receiving it like a child would a gift.

**Mark 10:16** *And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.* Everyone needs a touch from Him. Let Him put His arms around you today. You cannot live, you cannot thrive unless you let Him.