

Scripture this week:

Mark 10:13-16

¹³ And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Being Like Children... Sort Of

Mark 10:13-16

Todd Chapman - April 28, 2019

Jesus tells us there is a characteristic of children that is essential for us to possess. In fact, Jesus is going to insist that without this we won't enter His kingdom.

We are to be child-like.

We are not to be childish.

Pre-Life Group Study Questions:

Notes:

Mark 10:13-16

What does the text mean?

1. Since chapter 8, how has Mark defined what genuine faith is thus far in his book?
2. In the immediate context, how should we understand the connection between Jesus teachings on divorce with his interactions with children?
3. Why is it that “they” are bringing children to Jesus in verse 13? Who are “they”? Why do the disciples rebuke them?
4. In verse 14, Jesus was “indignant” to the disciples. Why does Jesus react so strongly?
5. What does Jesus mean by his statement in verse 15? In what sense are we to be “like a child”?
6. Jesus seems to be talking *about* children in verse 14, and then calling us to be *like* children in verse 15. Is the kingdom of God *for* the children, or for those who are *like* children? Explain.
7. What is the significance of Jesus taking the children in his arms (v 16)?
8. How would you paraphrase Mark’s big idea in 10:13-16?

How does it apply?

1. What do we learn about the person of Jesus and the character of God by his indignation toward the disciples?
2. What is the area in your life that you could continue to demonstrate more of that “childlike” trust and dependence on God?
3. How do we balance childlike faith with our responsibility to continue pursuing a deep, intellectual knowledge of God? What can we do to help each other maintain that balance?