

Jesus Loves the Little Children **Mark 10:13-16**

The BIG Idea ... Jesus _____ children highly and _____ them deeply, and He calls us to do the same. Psalm 139:13, "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb."

- They are God's _____ to us.
- They are God's _____ of how we enter His kingdom.

The Context

- Is about _____ (Mark 9:30-50) that's fleshed out in how we love and value our spouse (Mark 10:1-12) and in how we love and value children (Mark 10:13-16).
- Jesus isn't targeting parents here; He's targeting His followers here—He's targeting _____.

The Story

- While Jesus is teaching, parents are bringing their children to Him. Application: The greatest _____ any parent has is bringing their children to Jesus (Ephesians 6:4).
- Jesus has a heart for children, so they are not an inconvenience to Him. Application: Children will inconvenience you, but they are not an inconvenience; they are a _____.
- The disciples begin rebuking the parents who are bringing their children to Jesus: "This needs to stop because Jesus is teaching some super significant stuff about God's _____."
- Jesus is _____—not with the parents or the children; with the _____.
- Jesus says, "Let the little children come to me. Do not hinder them. Do not get in the way of them coming to me." Application: What a child sees from _____ followers of Jesus will _____ that child's _____ of Jesus.
- Jesus says, "Don't hinder the children from coming to me, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Application: Before little children get to the point of _____ grasping their sin and the need for salvation, they belong to _____ (see Deuteronomy 1:39; Jeremiah 19:4; Jonah 4:11; 2 Samuel 12:23).
- Jesus says, "Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." Application: The only way into God's kingdom is to come to Jesus empty-handed—bringing _____ and lacking _____ (Isaiah 53:6; Ephesians 2:8-9).
- This scene doesn't end with the disciples' _____; it ends with Jesus' _____. Application: When we come into the kingdom as a _____, Jesus takes us into His arms—welcoming us, blessing us, praying over us and for us ... as His children.

The Significance

1. It's a call for us to be _____ - _____ (Psalm 139:16).
2. It's a call for us to be all-in on _____ to children.
3. It's a call for adults to cultivate meaningful _____ with children.