

## Mark 10: 13-16 – What every kid needs: time, touch and talk

Pastor Joel used several illustrations from his whole personal experience. Take some time to reflect on your own experience: what was it like growing up for you?

1. Although probably no one believes they received the time and attention they wanted as you think back and remember your childhood to what extent do you feel your parents were personally involved in your life? If you are in a life group, it would be helpful to share the perspectives of different generations.
2. Some families were very expressive and others not so much. How about your family growing up? Were your folks expressive with each other? Did encouraging touch come primarily from only one member of your family or was your immediate and extended family pretty expressive with each other.
3. Finally, how about talk and conversation in your home. Was it “children are to be seen and not heard” or was there a lot of conversation that included children? Did you feel you could speak with one or both of your parents or did you feel they were too busy.
4. Did you have other adults in your life, particularly during your teenage years, that engaged you in helpful, even life giving conversation?
5. Consider the same question and look at your life right now. Describe time, touch and talk in your life as it relates to the children in your life? This could include kids, grandchildren, or kids who you serve at church, school scouts, coaching, etc.?
6. Have you made some intentional changes from your own childhood experiences? How and why? Were these easy or difficult? Explain
7. Close with talking about Cornerstone. What are the messages our kids get from their church and from the people who they engage with? Do you feel personally responsible to make them feel safe and loved? How are you expressing this in the weekly ministry of the church? What changes can you make to better serve our children and young people?
8. Close in prayer. Pray for those whose childhood has left deep scars. Pray that they find this kind of love in our church. Pray for our church children and young people. Their world is fast paced and challenging in ways ours perhaps wasn't.