

## Part 5: Hold Me Lord

Mark 10:13-16

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." 16 And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

1 John 3:16

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

"Tell me how lofty God is for you, and I'll tell you how little he means to you. That could be a theological axiom. The lofty God has been lofted right out of my private life.

It is certainly remarkable, but it is true. God has become of concern to me only because he has made himself smaller than the Milky Way, only because he is present in my little sickroom when I gasp for breath, or understands the little cares I cast on him, or takes seriously the request of a child for a scooter with balloon tires. He concerns me because Jesus Christ takes my speck of anxiety and my personal guilt upon himself."

-Helmut Thielicke

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### Message notes:

Jesus is on earth to \_\_\_\_\_ who the Father is, what He is like.

If you refuse His mercy and grace, you will receive His \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus is mad at them because they weren't \_\_\_\_\_ the children—they were looking at them as a nuisance.

His love is \_\_\_\_\_.

Children felt safe around Jesus because He is \_\_\_\_\_.

It's that He \_\_\_\_\_ that makes me important to Him, not that I have important things I can do for Him.

A parent is often defined when their child is at their \_\_\_\_\_ point.

Jesus was blessing the \_\_\_\_\_ by blessing the children.

Jesus came to restore us to \_\_\_\_\_.

### Additional notes:

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### Discussion Questions:

1. The quote from Helmut Thielicke expresses the idea of needing a “smaller God” who is approachable and present. How does this quote affect your understanding of who God is?
2. Reflecting on Mark 10:13-16, why do you think Jesus emphasized the importance of children in the Kingdom of God? What can we learn from this about our own faith?
3. The sermon encourages envisioning God as a loving Father who holds us in His arms. How can this imagery transform your prayer life and relationship with God?
4. Pastor Jamie reflected on the idea that a parent’s defining moment often comes when their child is at their lowest point. How have you handled these moments as a parent? What would you do differently today?
5. The sermon emphasizes that Jesus said the Kingdom of God belongs to those who receive it like little children, highlighting their innocence and trust. In what areas of your life do you struggle to have childlike faith? How can you take steps to trust God more, just like a child trusts their parents?

### Ministry Time:

Pastor Jamie mentioned forgiving and moving past the deficiencies of earthly fathers. Pray for anyone who is struggling with wounds from their earthly parents.

The message highlighted that Jesus welcomed children, implying that we should feel comfortable approaching God like a child approaching a loving parent. Pray for anyone who is struggling to have an intimate, close connection with the Father.