

May 30th – **Let the Children Worship**

It's Biblical!

Mark 10:13-16

¹³ One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him.

¹⁴ When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. ¹⁵ I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." ¹⁶ Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.

The Benefits/Blessings of Including Children in Church-wide Worship:

PARENTS ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO TEACH AFTERWARDS

When children are present with their parents they watch carefully.

Parents evangelize for the things they love.

Children honor their parents by imitation, adaptation of values.

1. The Children are present while the word is being preached.
 - Availing them to the presence of God's grace, and
 - Hearing the truth being unveiled.
2. They witness the sacrament
 - a. Baptism
 - b. Communion
3. They participate in prayer

SINGLE TRUTHS – *Post Easter Teachings*

4. They watch and listen to the seasoned saints of their church serve and react to the Holy Spirit.
 - They feel part of the experience.
 - “We are participants like everyone else.”
 - They feel valued in the Body of Christ.
5. The children gain information that will serve them well/better as they grow up in their faith.
6. The elder worshippers benefit from the children as well.
 - a. Children are the example of pure faith, honesty, genuineness, and yes, even their energy.

The adults are blessed with the presence of the children.

Again, the prophet Joel speaks the word of God!

² *Hear this, you leaders of the people.*

Listen, all who live in the land.

In all your history,

has anything like this happened before?

³ *Tell your children about it in the years to come,*

and let your children tell their children.

Pass the story down from generation to generation. Joel 1:2-3

¹⁵ *Blow the ram’s horn in Jerusalem!*

Announce a time of fasting;

call the people together

for a solemn meeting.

¹⁶ *Gather all the people—*

the elders, the children, and even the babies. Joel 2:15-16

God had anointed family worship at the Passover Feast, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Harvests:

SINGLE TRUTHS – *Post Easter Teachings*

¹¹ *This is a time to celebrate before the Lord your God at the designated place of worship he will choose for his name to be honored. Celebrate with your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, the Levites from your towns, and the foreigners, orphans, and widows who live among you. Deuteronomy 16:11 NLT*

Listen to the command of the Lord God to Moses:

Exodus 34:6-7 NLT

⁶ *“Yahweh! The Lord!
The God of compassion and mercy!
I am slow to anger
and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.
⁷ I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations.
I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin.*

Parents’ responsibility is clear and carries with it long-term consequences.

*But I do not excuse the guilty.
I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren;
the entire family is affected—
even children in the third and fourth generations.”*
Exodus 34:7b (continued)

Three words convey the meaning of “sins” or “wrongdoing”:

1. Iniquity has to do with *perverting the ways of the Lord*.
2. Transgression means *rebellion against God*.
3. Sin is literally “offense,” primarily by *missing the mark which God has set*.