

Sunday, August 3, 2025: Matthew 21:1 15–17

Matthew 21: 15–17

15 But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant. **16** "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "'From the lips of children and infants, you, Lord, have called forth your praise's?'" **17** And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.

Five ways to become more like a child in our faith:

1. Compassion: James 2:3–5

2. Provision Matthew 6:28–34

3. Peace: Matthew 6:25–27

4. Wonder: Ecclesiastes 9:7–9

5. The relation to the Father: God is perfect, no stain or blemish. He cares for us in His holy and perfect love. He will fill the God-sized hole in our heart. As children of the most holy God, we can trust Him to accept us as we are when we accept His gift of salvation. He will keep His promises made to us in His word. With a child-like faith, we can accept Him at His word and trust Him in His compassion, his provision for our life, accept His peace in our life and bask in the wonderment of a God who loves us that much.

QUESTIONS:

1. Children: What do you love best about them? What do you love about them? When a child calls your name, how does that make you feel? Why is the adoration of a child so special for someone to experience? Have you experienced jealousy when you see how a child reacts to someone else versus how they react to you?

2. What are side effects of worrying? If Jesus' questions in Matthew 6:27 were not rhetorical, how would you answer it? What are some things you worry about? What should we do instead of worrying? What does it mean to seek first His kingdom? How can we do this? Share one example with the group.

3. What do you wonder about? Think about your devotions for the past week/month, what have you wondered about during your reading? When was the last time you sat and just allowed your mind to wonder about God and His plan for your life? Is it important or not to spend time just wondering about God and who He is? Why or why not?

4. How is God like an earthly father, and how is He different? What are some things that earthly fathers do that reflect God's love and character? What are some things that earthly fathers do that are not like God's love and character? If God is a perfect Father, what are some ways that He demonstrates that perfection?