



# BIBLE KIDS

## **Bible Kids - Week 1 Trusting Jesus**

**Opening prayer**

**Prayer for the millennial generation:**

Here

## **Prayer for a local church:**

This morning we pray for our brother Kasey Crawford and Elevation Church.

## **Closing prayer**

### **INTRODUCTION**

- Taking my G.I. Joe to show-and-tell only to have him broken at recess... trust (count on)

**Big Idea for the Kids:** **Trusting Jesus is the**

**same for you as it is for your parents.**

**Big Idea for the Grownups: Trusting Jesus is the same for you as it is for your kids.**

## **Mark 10:13-16 (NLT)**

**<sup>13</sup> One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them.**

They simply wanted Jesus to place his hands upon their children and bless them. Why was that? Everything Jesus did he did out in the open. He did it in front of people. These parents heard Jesus preach. Many had seen him heal people by laying his hands on them. They knew Jesus was no ordinary man. He was more powerful than anyone they had ever seen and they wanted their children to know the power of God.

- Church/Bedtime Bible reading/Memorizing Bible verses, etc.

**But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him.**

The grownups thought Jesus was much too important to bother with little children. “Kids, we’re trying to have an important meeting here. Go outside and play. Go away.” That’s the way some grownups were treating other grownups who wanted to bring their children to Jesus.

What did Jesus think about this?

**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!”**

When Jesus sees people preventing children from coming to him he becomes angry.

- Yesterday, today and forever

There are two different ways people stop children from coming to Jesus.

# #1 - Outside influence!

An influence is a power that helps shape how you think and feel and act. A good influence helps you think and feel and act in good ways. A bad influence helps you think and act and feel bad ways.

Influence is the invisible force of someone's personality. Some people have a strong influence on you. That means the invisible force of their

personality is strong enough to make you change what you think or feel or act.

And sometimes they influence you in ways that are the exact opposite of what God wants for you. That's what we're talking about here. People who want to use their influence, the invisible force of their personality, to stop you from coming to Jesus.

Kids, maybe you've been around a grownup, maybe a teacher or a relative or a neighbor, and



you get the feeling that they don't feel the way your mom or dad feel about Jesus. You get the feeling they don't want you to feel the way your mom or dad feel about Jesus. Maybe it's something they say or a look they give you when you bring up Jesus or church. But you know they don't approve of Jesus and they don't want you to approve of Jesus, either. In other words, they want to stop you from coming to Jesus, from believing Jesus.

If you've experienced this already, know that you're going to experience it even more as you

grow up — you are going to meet people who don't want you to follow Jesus. But here's what you need to know — it makes Jesus angry.

- Yesterday, today and forever

**<sup>14</sup> 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!**

Now, why would anyone want to prevent someone else from following Jesus?

This is what Jesus teaches us all about the human heart — every human being begins with a heart that's twisted. We're not born with a heart that loves God. We're not born with hearts that love what's right or true. We're born with hearts that want to decide what is right and true for ourselves. We want to make it up.

That's why people don't want to believe in Jesus, because he said that he's the only one who knows what is right and true, because he is the Truth. He is the one who decides what is true. Now, because we have bad hearts, we don't want to do what God says.

Jesus said because we have bad hearts we are disobedient. So, we need to be forgiven for being disobedient and we need new hearts so that we can love God the way he wants us to love him.

The second way people stop children from coming to Jesus is influence, but here's the difference. The second way is...

## **#2 - Influence in the home.**

Now I'm talking about the influence that makes Jesus angry with Christians.

Our children will see if we (as their parents or guardians) are serious about Jesus.

Children aren't looking for perfect parents. And if they are then they're looking for something that doesn't exist except in God the Father.

What children need from Christian parents is consistency, steadiness. They need to see you moving forward with Christ in the same direction at an even pace. And they're going to see this in your actions and your choices more than anything.

**For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. <sup>15</sup> I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."**

Jesus tells grownups that they should trust what he says the way children trust what their mom or dad says.

- First signs of trust in a baby — lifting their arms when you extend your hands to them. Pretty soon they lift their arms before you

extend your hands because they trust that when they lift their arms to you that you will pick them up. That's the kind of faith Jesus is talking about here.

Jesus says that's the only way you can become a Christian. You don't become a Christian by trying to be better. You don't become a Christian by following certain rules. You don't have to wait until you grow up to become a Christian. All you need to be to become a Christian is anyone who can understand who Jesus is and what he has done.



Do you know that you've done bad things? Have you ever disobeyed your parents? God tells children to obey their parents, so if you've ever disobeyed them then you've told God that what he says doesn't matter. Do you know inside that it's wrong to tell God that he doesn't matter? Then you know sin. You know your heart doesn't love God the way he wants you to.

That's why God sent Jesus. He died for all your disobedience toward him and everyone else. Then Jesus rose from the dead so he could give

you a new heart. How do you get this forgiveness? How do you get a new heart? You just ask for it and God gives you one.

The only way any of us can receive new hearts and the forgiveness of all our sins is by trusting in what Jesus did. That he died for our sins and rose again from the dead so we could have new hearts.

God teaches parents that when children disobey they should discipline their children. Have you

even been grounded or lost a privilege like using your iPad or something? God wants you to know that he punishes sin because sin goes against his greatest hopes for you. Sin robs you of happiness and joy.

Also, when we sin against God it is far worse than sinning against our parents, because God is so much greater than anyone. That's why the penalty for sinning against him is the greatest penalty of all — eternal separation. If you do something wrong it's only fair that you're punished for the wrong thing you did.

But God is not only fair, he's also loving. So God sent Jesus to take the punishment that you deserve for your sins against him. Jesus did that by dying on the cross for you and rising again from the dead.

**#3 - The Jesus of the Bible wins.**

**<sup>16</sup> Then he took the children in his arms**

You know when Jesus spread his arms out on the cross to have nails driven through his hands, he opened his arms up to you. He did that so he could take you in his arms, but since Jesus took his body to heaven with him we experience his arms around us now through the Holy Spirit who is invisible. The Holy Spirit is like having Jesus with us invisibly.

This is something you're going to hear grownups say, "I only believe what I can see." But that's never true. Do you believe in air? Sure you do.

You breath air, but you can't see it. Here's an even better one. Do you think? Do you have thoughts in your mind? I hope so. But you can't see your thoughts. People believe in things they can't see all the time. The only question is — is there good reason to believe in something that is unseen?

God has given us a history that can be examined. He has given us a Savior who can be trusted. And He has given us a Holy Spirit who can be felt.

**and placed his hands on their heads and  
blessed them.**