

## LIFE GROUP GUIDE - Week Starting Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May

### Key Scripture Mark 10:13-16

#### This Week's BIG IDEA

Jesus teaches in these verses to come to Him simply, in helplessness and dependency, the way a child might. So, our focus is the loving welcome the Father gives to all who seek Him.

#### Focussing on God

Read 1 John 3:1: *See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!*

Spend some time worshiping the Father and declaring how good it is to be children of God.

Song: Good Good Father (Chris Tomlin): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ak0OoFBw3c>

You could also listen to Pete Coggan – Child Forever, if you can find it.

#### Intro Questions

- Who in your life would you say has a strong faith in Jesus?
- What qualities do they have, and how does that compare with what Jesus says about children?

#### Getting into Scripture

Read Mark 10:13-16 together.

- Why do you think the disciples rebuked the people bringing children to Jesus? What assumptions might they have had about who was “important” to Jesus?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29. Who gets most overlooked or underestimated in churches today?
- Read Mark 10:15 again. What does it practically mean to “receive” the Kingdom rather than try to earn it? How difficult do you find that? What gets in the way?
- Have there been moments in your life when simple obedience or trust led to a deeper encounter with God?
- Read Romans 8:14-16, and Galatians 4:6-7. Does God feel like a Father to you? Why does the all-powerful creator of the universe use this family language to describe the way we interact with Him?
- Read Mark 10:16 again. What stands out to you about Jesus physically embracing the children?
- What makes it difficult for us to simply receive God's love?

#### Missional & Pastoral Prayer

Individually, spend a few quiet moments asking God where you have become self-reliant instead of child-like.

Then as a group or maybe in 2-3s, pray for one another for:

- Renewed trust in the Father.
- Freedom from performance-driven Christianity.
- Child-like faith and expectancy.
- Courage to approach Jesus honestly.