

## **The Role of Children**

### **July 29-30, 2023**

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

<sup>13</sup> 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.

<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! 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.” <sup>16</sup> Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.

#### **Proverbs 22:6 (ESV)**

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

#### **Ephesians 6:1-2 (NIV)**

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother” (which is the first commandment with a promise), “that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life on the earth.”

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### **Luke 2:41-52 (NLT)**

<sup>41</sup> Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. <sup>42</sup> When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. <sup>43</sup> After the celebration was over, they started home to Nazareth, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't miss him at first, <sup>44</sup> because they assumed he was among the other travelers. But when he didn't show up that evening, they started looking for him among their relatives and friends.

<sup>45</sup> When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. <sup>46</sup> Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. <sup>47</sup> All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

<sup>48</sup> His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere."

<sup>49</sup> "But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup> But they didn't understand what he meant.

<sup>51</sup> Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup> Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.

### **Hebrews 12:11 (NLT)**

<sup>11</sup> No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

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### Psalm 139:1-18 (NLT)

- <sup>1</sup> O Lord, you have examined my heart  
and know everything about me.
- <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down or stand up.  
You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.
- <sup>3</sup> You see me when I travel  
and when I rest at home.  
You know everything I do.
- <sup>4</sup> You know what I am going to say  
even before I say it, Lord.
- <sup>5</sup> You go before me and follow me.  
You place your hand of blessing on my head.
- <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
too great for me to understand!
- <sup>7</sup> I can never escape from your Spirit!  
I can never get away from your presence!
- <sup>8</sup> If I go up to heaven, you are there;  
if I go down to the grave, you are there.
- <sup>9</sup> If I ride the wings of the morning,  
if I dwell by the farthest oceans,
- <sup>10</sup> even there your hand will guide me,  
and your strength will support me.
- <sup>11</sup> I could ask the darkness to hide me  
and the light around me to become night—
- <sup>12</sup> but even in darkness I cannot hide from you.  
To you the night shines as bright as day.  
Darkness and light are the same to you.
- <sup>13</sup> You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body  
and knit me together in my mother's womb.
- <sup>14</sup> Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!  
Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.
- <sup>15</sup> You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion,  
as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.
- <sup>16</sup> You saw me before I was born.  
Every day of my life was recorded in your book.  
Every moment was laid out  
before a single day had passed.

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<sup>17</sup> How precious are your thoughts about me, O God.  
They cannot be numbered!

<sup>18</sup> I can't even count them;  
they outnumber the grains of sand!

And when I wake up,  
you are still with me!