

Southside Baptist Church
Wednesday Night Worship – 10-22-25
Matthew Chapter 19 Part 14
Jesus blesses the children and encounters a rich young ruler.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Final exhortations concerning the covenant of marriage.
- 2) The right attitude is important concerning marriage.
 - a) Know and understand God's plan and purpose.
- 3) The right attitude is important concerning divorce.
 - a) The Bible does recognize and regulate divorce.
- 4) Divorce is not an unpardonable sin.
 - a) Divorce is sin and because it is sin, it is forgivable.
- 5) Other things to remember:
 - a) The General Rule – do not divorce.
 - b) The Exception Clause – It is for fornication.
 - c) The reason the Pharisees asked Jesus about divorce was to settle the debate.
 - d) Deut. 24:1 – three things that passage gives us about what Moses permitted.
 - e) Romans 7 – not a passage specifically about marriage but about the believer's position in Christ.
 - f) I Cor. 7 – Believers, do not divorce but if you do, remain single or be reconciled. Counsel concerning a spouse who turns to Jesus and the other does not.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Parents are bringing their children to Jesus.
- 2) Was this man looking for salvation or vindication?

2. Jesus said, "suffer little children." Matthew 19:13-16

a. What a privilege this is.

- 1) Parents bringing their children to Jesus.

b. Verse 13 –

- 1) "Then" suggests this is a narrative.
- 2) Matthew and Mark speak of children and Luke speaks of infants.
- 3) Many of these children could not have come on their own.
- 4) The desire of the parents is revealed.
 - a) Verse 13 – "that he (Jesus) should put his hands on them, and pray."
 - b) There is a level of trust revealed here.
- 5) The disciples "rebuked" them.

c. Verse 14 –

- 1) Jesus said, "suffer little children" – permit them, allow them.
- 2) Why?
 - a) "for of such is the kingdom of heaven."
 - b) This characterization is related to faith.
 - c) Simple childlike faith.
 - d) This childlike faith may have been more evident in the parents –

d. Verse 15 –

- 1) Jesus touched them –

3. An interesting place for this narrative.

a. Could this be a strategic reminder?

- 1) Children are a gift from the Lord – Psalm 127:3
 - a) The word “heritage” means assigned by God.
 - b) “reward” – speaks of the fruit of labor.
- 2) Children are an example of humility and faith.
 - a) Children challenge us to have childlike faith.
 - b) What are parents supposed to do with this?
- 3) Children are to be trained up by their parents.
 - a) I love the ideas that flow from Deuteronomy 6:6-7
 - b) I love the implication of Proverbs 22:6
 - c) I love the reminder to dads in Ephesians 6:4
- 4) Why is this so important?
 - a) Because children become adults like the one we will meet next.
4. A rich young ruler comes running to Jesus. Matthew 19:16-22
 - a. Some initial observations.
 - 1) I wanted to share some observations with you to get you thinking about this passage.
5. Tonight’s Take Away:
 - a. It is good to be reminded that:
 - 1) Children are a gift from the Lord.
 - 2) Children are an example of humility and faith.
 - 3) Children are to be trained up by their parents.
 - b. The rich young ruler story. Here is your chance to practice something that is important to grow in your study of the Bible. The tool of observation.