

SERVANT KING



A verse by verse study in
The Gospel of Mark

Christ's Curtain Climbers

Mark 10:13-16



Jesus radically capsized the system of values the world had and gave respect and service to the overlooked and helpless.

Jesus not only showed the value God places on the helpless but also explained that it is helplessness that is necessary to enter a relationship with Him.



I. Jesus Placed Great Value on Children

- 1. There was a celebrated custom going back to the patriarchs where parents would bring their children to a celebrated religious figure for a blessing.**
 - A long line had occurred with the hustle and bustle of families.**

2. But the disciples rebuked them.

- We are not told the disciples' exact motive, but it appears they believed these families were bothering Jesus or threatening Him.**

3. Jesus responded sharply.

- **Jesus loves children.**

- **But what we tend to forget most is that Jesus was a child.**
 - **He was an infant, a child, a teenager, a man.**
 - **Jesus experienced these things because He cares for all.**
 - **The Kingdom belongs to these and others like them.**

4. Herein lies our call to share the Gospel with young people.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:5-9 HCSB

Let this be a sign among you, so that when your children ask later, saying, “What do these stones mean to you?”

then you shall say to them, “Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.” So these stones shall become a memorial to the sons of Israel forever.

Joshua 4:6-7 NASB

- **Every one of us has a role of some kind in reaching the next generation with the Gospel. That means committing to prayer, to giving, and to volunteering.**

- **We must never pressure children for unrealistic decisions, but we must cultivate their spiritual awareness and sensitivity.**

5. Jesus said the Kingdom belongs to “such as these.”

- He is talking about not just children, but the helpless and overlooked. Who in our culture might be in that category? Who among them might need the message of the Gospel?**



**II. Jesus Said to Get Into the Kingdom,
One Must Be Like a Child**

**1. Recognizing their insignificance
is what God places value on.**

2. Then He made a powerful exclusive statement:

- He said that the Kingdom of God belongs to those like children. And if one doesn't receive the Kingdom like a child, he doesn't get into the Kingdom.**

3. Jesus wasn't saying one has to be a child to get into the Kingdom, but *like* a child.

- **The children had no merited virtues – no self-achievement to point to.**
- **It was not their virtues that Jesus pointed out, but what they lacked.**

- **To receive the Kingdom of God, one must come as a child, meaning with no credits, no clouts, no claims.**
 - **They come in faith, not by personal achievement.**

“I assure you,” He said, “unless you are converted and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child – this one is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:2-3 HCSB

If we are to receive the gift of salvation and entrance into the Kingdom, we must be like children. If believers are going to commune with God, then we must be like children.

Jesus is tender and affectionate to those who bring nothing to Him but their need.

- Danny Akin

