

THE ONE YEAR BIBLE CLUB

WITH TEACHING COMMENTARY BY NICK BOORK

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March 1 - Mark 10:13-31

Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. 14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. 15 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." 16 And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them. 17 Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" 18 So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. 19 You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Do not defraud,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" 20 And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth." 21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." 22 But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" 24 And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." 26 And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, "Who then can be saved?" 27 But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." 28 Then Peter began to say to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You." 29 So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, 30 who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

OKAY, HERE'S MY TEACHING COMMENTARY

Let's look at what Jesus had to say about children and the kingdom of God. It appears that the parents of children were bringing their kids to Jesus so that He might pray for them but the disciples of were turning them back and telling them they couldn't see Jesus. The Lord was upset! The Bible says Jesus was "greatly displeased." So much so that he rebuked His disciples publicly in front of the parents and the children. Forbidding children to come to Him is something that Jesus would not tolerate. To keep a child from Jesus is a crime! Today, more than ever, because of the abundance of sin that can trap young people early in life they need to come to

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Jesus as early as possible. One survey said that over 80% of adult Christians said that they came to Jesus before they were 15 years of age. If we can get children to Jesus to learn to know and follow him it can save them years of undoing bad habits and healing emotional pain because they made the right choices early in life.

The disciples thought that these kids were going to be a distraction or an inconvenience to Jesus. However Jesus made it very clear this was not the case. He said let them come to me for of such are the Kingdom of Heaven. In other words, Jesus wanted these children to come to Him. He welcomed them, picked them up in his arms and blessed them. Then Jesus uses this situation to teach a very important lesson. He said **whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it**. What does this mean? Children believe what you tell them. They are not full of unbelief. We need to believe Jesus words and promises with a simple faith trusting in Him. We are conditioned as we grow into adults concerning what we believe about God. A child is open and receptive to believe in God because they don't have decades of unbelief programmed into their minds and hearts.

Children trust their parents. If the child's father says jump from a table the child will jump knowing that the father will catch him or her. That's how we need to trust our heavenly Father because He is faithful and we can trust His word. Believing in God's word and promises is foundational to saving faith and children are capable of having sincere faith in Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul acknowledged that Timothy had been instructed through the Scriptures about salvation in Jesus Christ from a child. 2 Timothy 3:15 and that from **childhood** you have **known the Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE?

Jesus wants children do come to Him! If you're a parent, do everything in your power to get your children to Jesus Christ as early as possible. It can save them many years of heartache.

Don't underestimate the power of the word of God to help children come to faith in Jesus Christ at a early age. Teach children to memorize the word of God.

If you're a pastor or children's pastor be sure to pray and bless the children that are entrusted to you. God's blessings can flow through you just as they did through his Son Jesus Christ as He himself laid his hands on the children blessed them publicly.

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