**Mark 10:13-16 — Jesus On Children**

November 3, 2019

1. The Background

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. Mark 10:13 (ESV)

Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them.
Luke 18:15 (ESV)

Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray… Matthew 19:13 (ESV)

1. Jesus loves children.

But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.” Mark 10:14 (ESV)

But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them,…” Luke 18:16 (ESV)

And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them. Mark 10:16 (ESV)

CrossWinds Core Value #6 — Family — We believe in the importance of a healthy biblical family and supporting parents in their responsibility for the spiritual health of their children.

1. The kingdom of God must be received like a child.

“Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” Mark 10:15 (ESV)

And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’ ” And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”
Mark 10:17–23 (ESV)

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 18:9–14 (ESV)

1. Conclusion
2. We love children because Jesus loved children. In a world that ignored children or treated them like an inconvenience, Jesus loved them and blessed them. As we follow in his footsteps, we must do the same. Ask yourself, have I considered foster care or adoption to love children like Jesus? Have I considered helping with AWANA, youth group, or CW Kids on Sunday morning to love children like Jesus?
3. The kingdom of God must be received like a child. Do I have simple and complete trust in Jesus alone to save me from my sin, just like a child has simple and complete trust in their parent? Am I trusting in the good things I do and the status I have to earn favor before God?

Life Group Questions

1. Read Mark 10:13-16. What stuck out to you in the study that you hope to apply in your life?
2. How does Mark 10:13-16 relate to Mark 10:17-22??
3. Read Matthew 18:1-4. In this passage, the disciples were trying to find the way to be the greatest. Jesus used a child to teach them about greatness. What are the qualities of a child the disciples needed to learn so they would understand what greatness looks like in God’s eyes? How can we apply this to our life?
4. Read Luke 10:21. Jesus says God chose to reveal the kingdom to children instead of the wise and learned. What is it about children that allows them to comprehend the gospel? How can wisdom and learning become a distraction that blinds people from the simple gospel message? Can people start with simple faith but let wisdom and learning lead them away from Jesus? For an example, see Galatians 1:6-10; 2:3; 3:1-3.
5. Pastor Kurt challenged us to love children like Jesus. The early church was famous for adopting unwanted children. Have you considered becoming a foster parent or adopting? If not, why? It is a great way to put our faith into practice. Are you willing to get involved with AWANA, youth group, or CW Kids to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and tell children about Him?