



“Jesus Loves Children / Having Child-Like Faith!”

Luke 18:15-17

1. One of our Main Core values here at Endurance Church is Kids & Youth Ministries!

- We love our kids at this church!
- I want to say thank you to the parents! *Thank you for bringing your kids to church! You are not just bringing them to church...you are bringing them to Jesus!*
- I want to say thank you to every Kids Ministry volunteer! You pour your time and life into these kids every single week! *Without you...we would not have a Kids Ministry!*
- We also want to reach more kids that are outside of this church! Jesus just doesn't love the kids that we have...He loves them all!
- Just in the Book of Acts alone... **God ADDED** so many children and people to the local church! From one person, to a family and large numbers daily... **God added to the church and the church grew!** It will blow your mind how many times people were added!
- **YOU MUST BE ACTIVE IN BRINGING KIDS TO JESUS!** It's a mandate in the Bible!
- Beth and I would let Kaitland and Corbin have a friend or two over on Saturday nights. **The key? These kids did not go to church! So, they went with us!!!**
- So, with them staying the night on a Saturday night, *we were able to take them to church on Sunday mornings.* We believe in this that much! We saw their friends come to Jesus!
- *We will always be a church that not only values children & youth, but back it up by having Ministries to help them find Jesus and grow in Jesus!*
- **Parents please remember today...**the church is not here to raise your kids...WE are here to help assist you in the raising of your kids!
- **Every night that you can,** you should be tucking these kids in bed, reading a scripture over them and then pray with them. **PERIOD!**
- Beth and I did this with Kaity and Corbin, and we do not regret a moment of it ever! **My kids will tell you even today the impact that it made on them with us doing this!**

2. Jesus has to be THE Priority in our lives!

- **Luke 18:15 / Mark 10:13 / The FIRST Command in our lives – Mark 12:30**
- The **FIRST thing** that Jesus told Peter to do as the new leader of the Church was to **FEED My LAMBS!** **John 21:15 Lambs = Little ones!**
- *It's pretty simple... **BRING** the infants and children to Jesus!*

- **Why?** To not just bless them but to TEACH them!
- Jesus in **Luke 18:15** wanted to love on and hold the infants and children!
- **Why? HE CREATED them!** **Colossians 1:15-20!** That's Jesus!
- Can you imagine being the CREATOR of that child and then getting to hold your creation???

Mark 10:16 says that Jesus took them in His arms and blessed them! (*This does not mean that they were SAVED as infants or children! Not at all!*)

- **Please hear me today on this...** We know that the *only way* a person is saved from punishment of sin and death is by **THAT PERSON** becoming aware of their sinful state (**Romans 3:23 / Romans 6:23**...*(there is no age of accountability...just an awareness of accountability)*!)
- **THAT PERSON** turns to the Lord *individually* (**Acts 17:30-31 / John 1:9 / Psalm 103:12**), and then **THAT PERSON** confessing *with their own mouth* and believing *in their own heart* that Jesus is Lord and Alive (**Romans 10:9-10 / Romans 10:13 / 2 Corinthians 5:17**)!
- See, this is **WHY** it is so important that **we** live out the command to TEACH people about the Good News of Jesus Christ and Jesus Himself! (**Deuteronomy 6:6-7 / Matthew 28:19-20**) *It is the most IMPORTANT MANDATE that we are given to do besides Mark 12:30!*

****Warning in this Text:** Do not ever be the person that **STOPS a child** from coming to Jesus!
******(**Luke 18:15-16** – **“Do not hinder them...”**)*

- **Mark 10:14** – “But, when Jesus saw it, **he was INDIGNANT...**”
- It's safe to say today that Jesus does not put up with someone or people stopping children coming to Him!

Closing: Love + Time = Influence!

- Jesus loves the little children by *spending TIME* with the children! **Mark 10:16**
- **Parents...is there anything worth missing out on your kids?**
- God has given you your children as a **GIFT** from Him to you! **Raise them for Him!**
- I will tell you this much and it's so true – **“He who spends the most TIME wins!”**
- **Do not let the culture raise your kids! Do not let your kid's friends raise your kids! Do not let the smart phone raise your kids!**
- **Let the Bible raise your kids! Let Jesus raise your kids!**
- You raise your kids for Jesus by putting the **TIME** in with your kids with Jesus!

Luke 18:17 – **Don't let your hard heart and pride keep you from Jesus!** From Heaven! From Him for Eternity! From allowing Him to heal your heart and hurt!

- Allow the Holy Spirit to soften your heart today **like a child's heart and faith again!**
- **Do you know why we love a good kid movie? It makes us FEEL like a kid again!** The laughter, joy, fun, good times, adventure, memories and more!
- If you have this type of heart and faith already...**protect it** and don't let anything steal this away from you!
- **If you don't...**please give Jesus a chance today to show you His kindness and love.