

CHILDREN ARE PRECIOUS TO JESUS, SO CHILDREN SHOULD BE PRECIOUS TO US.

Mark 10:13-16

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Jesus and children

- People were **bringing** their children to Jesus for Him to bless them – 10:13a
- The disciples saw children as an **interruption** – 10:13
- If we love Jesus, we should love what He loves. Children are precious to Jesus, so they should be precious to us – 10:14-15
 - Children reflect a properly basic **trust**.
 - Jesus considered children worthy of His attention.
 - Jesus elevates children as the ideal **citizen** of the ultimate kingdom.

Q: How can I help children come to Jesus?

- 1) Pour the Word of God into your children and grandchildren.
- 2) Pray for God to open their heart to the Gospel.

- 3) Let the church help: Grace Kids, Grace Students & AWANA.
- 4) Invite the entire family to Christmas at Grace –
Sunday, Dec. 23 @ 8:30, 10:00, & 11:30 a.m.
Christmas Eve candlelight services @ 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. Dec. 24.
- 5) Give generously to the Legacy Christmas Offering for a dedicated Children’s Ministry Center.

Let this be our commitment to the next generation...Psalm 78:4
We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

Psalm 71:18

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

Resources for pouring the Gospel into your children

- Toddlers & Preschool: *A Child’s First Bible* (illustrated by Kenneth Taylor)
- Toddlers & Preschool: *The Bible App for Kids* (free download)
- Elementary: *The Attributes of God for Children* (William Lane Craig & Marli Renee)
- Elementary: *The Case for Christ for Kids*
- Elementary: *The Case for a Creator for Kids*
- Elementary: *The Case for Faith for Kids*
- Middle school & High school: *Gotquestions.org*
- Middle school & High school: *The Bible Project* (YouTube)
- College & above: *On Guard* (William Lane Craig)
- College & above: *Reasonablefaith.org* & *Reasonable Faith Podcast* (William Lane Craig)