

KINGDOM KIDS

Pastor Jeremy Peters

Mark 10:13-16 NLT

¹³One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him.

¹⁴When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children.

¹⁵I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

¹⁶Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.

The Kingdom in Action

November 24, 2013

Becoming Kingdom Kids

1. Entering the Kingdom of God.

As much as we want to demonstrate that we are worthy to be 'chosen' by God by our 'good deeds,' Jesus says, unless you come as a child recognizing that there is nothing you can do to earn my love, until you see that it is not your works that merit acceptance or rejection, you will not experience life in the Kingdom of God that has been freely made available to you.

2. Living in the Kingdom of God.

Young children don't try to use us for some personal and selfish gain. They just want us. They just want to be close, to crawl up on our lap, with no agenda. They just want relationship. They just want intimacy. Jesus says to enter the Kingdom of God, we are to become like children – marked by a longing for intimacy with Him.

Prayer is simply talking to God about the things we are doing together. ~ Dallas Willard

Apprenticing with Jesus

3. Demonstrating the Kingdom of God.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Blessing – Giving weight to someone, affirming personal worth and value, and painting a vivid picture of future potential.

As a community of people seeking to apprentice with Jesus, we need to be a people who are intentional and deliberate to follow His lead in blessing others. We need an intentional ‘blessing strategy / orientation.’

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

KINGDOM KIDS

1. How do we, in the church, either consciously or subconsciously dismiss children?
2. As you reflect on the time in your life when you entered the kingdom of God, how did you reflect the heart posture, and mentality of a child?
3. Pastor Jeremy talked about how children (especially infants) long for intimate ongoing relationships - how have you seen that to be true?

Why do you think that an ‘adult’ mindset causes us to drift away from this intrinsic ‘childish’ need, in particular as it relates to relationship with God?

4. Who are the people in our city who, like children, are overlooked and undervalued? How can we bless them? What might an ongoing blessing strategy or orientation look like?
5. Have you ever either in your personal time with God or in conversation with someone else received a word of blessing or affirmation spoken over you? How did it impact you? Share with the group.