

## Bringing Children To Jesus

Meeting Jesus #9 of 13  
Tim Gill - October 25, 2015

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup> And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. **Mark 10:13-16 (NIV)**

Children are a gift from the Lord. Babies are a reward.

**Psalms 127:3 (ICB)**

Grandchildren are the crown of the aged... **Proverbs 17:6 (ESV)**

### Why should children matter to me?

#### 1. Because children **matter in heaven.**

"Be careful. Don't think these little children are worth nothing. I tell you that they have angels in heaven who are always with my Father in heaven." **Matthew 18:10 (ICB)**

#### 2. Because children **are closely connected to God.**

Jesus knew what they were thinking. So he took a little child and stood the child beside him. <sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said, "If anyone accepts a little child like this in my name, then he accepts me. And when he accepts me, he accepts the One who sent me. He who is least among you all—he is the greatest." **Luke 9:47-48 (ICB)**

#### 3. Because children **are godly role models.**

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to people who are like these children." **Matthew 19:14 (ICB)**

He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. <sup>3</sup> And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." **Matthew 18:2-4 (NIV)**

People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. <sup>16</sup> But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>17</sup> Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." **Luke 18:15-17 (NIV)**

### Four ways I can bring children closer to Jesus:

#### 1. **Be kind and not cranky.**

Then Jesus took the children in his arms. He put his hands on them and blessed them. **Mark 10:16 (ICB)**

But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant. <sup>16</sup> "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "'From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?" **Matthew 21:15-16 (NIV)**

#### 2. **Bring children with me to church.**

People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. **Luke 18:15a (NIV)**

#### 3. **Pray for children.**

Then the people brought their little children to Jesus so that he could put his hands on them and pray for them. **Matthew 19:13a (ICB)**

#### 4. **Direct children toward God.**

Some people brought children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them... **Mark 10:13 (NIV)**

Then Jesus took the children in his arms. He put his hands on them and blessed them. **Mark 10:16 (ICB)**