

The Gospel of Mark
A Childlike Faith
Mark 10:13-16

Psalms 127:3 says, "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord." God's blessing in creation was the ability to "be fruitful and multiply." He designed the family unit of father, mother, and children to be the basis of society, entrusting parents with the task of raising children to know Him and to live for His glory. Even in our age, in what the Bible calls the last days, parents are expected to raise their children in the knowledge of God's design and the power of the gospel that allows them the chance to live within that design.

1. We come into the kingdom with a sense of awe and wonder.
2. We come into the kingdom with a sense of dependency on God.
3. We come into the kingdom with a sense of joy and blessing.

From infancy to eternity, we were made for more than the paltry pleasures of this life. When our God made us and sent us into the world, he did not intend that we find satisfaction with the baubles and trinkets of this life. He certainly did not send us into this world that we might be satisfied with those thieving pleasures of sin. The Father did not intend that we would waste ourselves on things that break us and destroy us. He created us to be with him and find our joy in him. We were made for infinite pleasure and joy, for a kingdom and a King who brings us into His glory. (Thabiti Anyabwile, *Exalting Jesus in Luke*)

For further consideration:

How do children have intrinsic value not just potential value? What reasons might some people have for restricting the access of children to Jesus? What do you think the secular society thinks about bringing people to Jesus or in our case, letting them be involved in church? What competes for the attention of our children? What opportunities do you have or have you had to bring children to Jesus? If you neglected that responsibility in your past, do you think it is too late now? What does this passage say about the Next Gen ministries of our church and their level of importance in the kingdom? What would this passage seem to indicate with regard to a church that fails to find an adequate number of volunteers to staff its Next Gen ministries?