

Reality – Bible Lesson for June 28, 2020 – Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

New Testament Section Two: His Love for All People Lesson 5: Jesus and the Children

- 1. Lesson: Jesus and the Children**
- 2. Scripture:** Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17
- 3. Memory Verse:** "Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children." – Luke 18:16 (NLT)
- 4. The Jesus Storybook Bible:** Pages 256 - 263
- 5. The Beginner's Bible:** Pages 364 – 370
- 6. God's Story for Me Bible:** 394 - 399
- 7. Materials useful in teaching the lesson – Beginning Activity:** A Bible **Craft:** Two feet of ribbon or a two foot strip of construction paper taped together; a piece of thin ribbon; downloaded template; tape

Craft:

<https://www.dltk-holidays.com/t.asp?t=https://www.dltk-holidays.com/valentines/images/cjesusloves.gif>

or

<https://www.dltk-holidays.com/t.asp?t=https://www.dltk-holidays.com/valentines/images/bjesusloves.gif>

<https://www.dltk-holidays.com/valentines/mvdoorknob.htm>

Video you can use to reinforce the story:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPDL_xFCqhw

1.Prayer: Pray with your children – then introduce the following attention grabber:

Say: I want to begin our lesson this morning by reading a couple of verses from the Bible to you. (Using a Bible, open it to Mark 10:15-16, but with the Bible turned UPSIDE DOWN.) Hmm, I seem to be having trouble reading this morning. (Adjust your glasses if you wear them.) I wonder what is wrong. Can any of you help me figure out why I am having trouble reading? (The children will, no doubt, recognize that your Bible is upside down and will tell you that you have your Bible upside down. If not, discover it yourself.) Oh, my goodness, I have my Bible turned upside down! No wonder I couldn't read it. Let's try again. (Turn the Bible upright and read Mark 10:15-16.)

My little mistake of having the Bible upside down reminds me of a mistake that the disciples of Jesus made one day. Many people were bringing children to Jesus so that he could bless them. The disciples scolded the parents because they thought they were bothering Jesus. They thought that Jesus would be pleased with what they were doing - but he wasn't. However, Jesus saw a teachable moment with His disciples. The disciples

didn't want children to come to Jesus because they thought they were in the way. Jesus used this moment to teach the disciples that He welcomes children because He loves them and because of their beautiful faith. He let the disciples know that He wanted them to see children the way He saw them. Let's find out what happened...

2. Bible Story: (You can teach the story below and/or read it from "The Jesus Storybook Bible" – Pages 256 – 263; "The Beginner's Bible" – Pages 409 – 412; or "God's Story for Me Bible" – Pages 394 - 399)

One day Jesus was teaching a large group of people on the east side of the Jordan River – in an area called Perea. After a while, people started bringing their children to Jesus so that He could bless them. The children loved Jesus and they knew He would be happy to see them. They didn't have to do or say anything special for Jesus to love them. Children hold an incredibly special place in Jesus' heart. Did you know that each and every one of you is loved very much by Jesus? In Jeremiah 31:3, it says that He loves you with an everlasting love.

But Jesus' disciples saw the children coming up to Him and they got upset with the people who brought the children into the presence of Jesus. Maybe they thought Jesus was too tired to be with the children or maybe they thought Jesus had more important things to do than to talk to children. Maybe they didn't understand this part of Jesus' ministry. But Jesus saw them trying to keep the children back and He was GREATLY displeased. He gave the disciples a double command, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Jesus was telling His disciples, "Let the little children come to me and DO NOT stop them!"

Then all the children made their way up to Jesus. He wrapped His arms around them. They were able to see how much Jesus loved them and wanted to spend time with them. Jesus was making it clear that children were not in His way. You could NEVER be in Jesus' way because He loves you so much and He always wants you to come to Him. It may be hard to understand, but Jesus loves you more than anyone else in the world could possibly love you. That's why He died on the Cross for you and for me.

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Jesus was letting us know that God's Kingdom is not gained by our works, or the good things that we do. We receive God's Kingdom through Jesus. We receive His salvation through faith. We know that it is impossible for us to save ourselves from sin, so we put our trust in Jesus.

Jesus took children up in His arms and He blessed them. He laid His hands on their heads and He told them how much He loved them. The hands that would be nailed to the Cross reached out and hugged each child. The prophet, Isaiah, said several hundred years before Jesus was born, "See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hand!" Isaiah was talking about how important Israel was to God, but you are that important to God also. It is as though your names are written on the palms of your Heavenly

Father. He never forgets you and is always with you. He told His disciples that the Kingdom of Heaven is made for people who have hearts like little children.

Jesus said: "I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Wow! Now that's HUGE! Not only is Jesus saying that children are important, but He is showing them as an example to everyone else about how they must receive the kingdom of God!

Having the faith of a child means trusting completely. This is how God wants us to trust Him – completely. It is knowing that God is always there for you. Children have innocence, trust, and humility...all pretty amazing qualities for entrance into God's Kingdom. As the "Jesus Storybook Bible" says, "No matter how big you grow, never grow up so much that you lose your child's heart: full of trust in God. Be like these children. They are the most important in My Kingdom."

3. Bible Exploration – Checking for Understanding:

- Why did the parents want to bring their children to Jesus? (To be blessed by Him)
- Why did the disciples rebuke the parents? [rebuke means stern disapproval] (They thought the children were in Jesus' way or were bothering Him)
- Why did Jesus interrupt His teaching to call the children to Him? (Because He loves children so much and because He wanted to teach the disciples a lesson)
- How was this a "teachable" moment? (Jesus wanted to teach them about the beautiful qualities of children, His great love for them, and how the disciples needed to be more like them and teach others to have this kind of faith)
- Which qualities of children did Jesus want His disciples to learn? (Humility, trust, acceptance, salvation by faith and not by works)

4. Bible Application:

Craft: Jesus Loves Me Wall Hanging or Doorknob Hanger



1. Print out the template and color if you are using the black and white version.
2. (Optional) Fill in the letters of L O V E with glitter glue or sparkles.
3. Glue each of the LOVE hearts onto the ribbon – keeping them as evenly spaced as possible. (You can use strips of construction paper instead of a ribbon – you may have to tape two pieces together.)
4. Glue the picture of Jesus to the very top of the ribbon or paper.
5. Tie or tape a piece of thin ribbon around the top of the large ribbon (or construction paper.)
6. Make a loop big enough to fit over the doorknob or to hang it on a pushpin or nail on the wall.

5.Memory Verse: Have the children say the memory verse one more time - “Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children.” – Luke 18:16 (NLT)

Say: We are going to play “Well Said” We will form two teams. The challenge is for each team to outdo the other team in saying the memory verses in a creative way. Each team will have 15 seconds to come up with their next plan.

Teams alternate saying the verses and their references. For example: Team 1 may say the verses while hopping on one foot. Team 2 may respond by all the kids saying the verses while clapping after each word. Team 1 may then say the verses while turning around in circles. Team 2 may say the verses while doing the twist, and so on. (There really is no winner, but the kids will have a lot of fun, and they will unknowingly memorize the verses.)

6. Closing Prayer: Lead the children in a closing prayer. Encourage your child/children to also say their own individual prayers about any additional concerns they have.