



Sermon Series: Welcome Home
Text: Mark 10:13-16
Delivered: January 21st, 2024
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Welcoming The Children

Big Idea: God loves kids.

Children are a _____, not a _____. (Mark 10:13-14; Psalm 127:3-5)

Children are _____, not _____. (Mark 10:14,16)

“A mom in her home can feel shelved by God from real ministry. But isn’t there a story about this in the Gospels, about adults who didn’t want time-consuming children to interfere with real kingdom work? And whom did Jesus correct? Did he correct the thick-fingered toddlers and long-winded grade-schoolers? Did he correct the boys for how their minds wander and bodies fidget, and the girls for their sticky fingers and their immature decisions? Jesus corrected the kingdom-driven adults who didn’t have time for the children.” -Amanda Criss

Children are an _____, not an _____. (Mark 10:15)

1. Children are an invitation to see _____ in them.
2. Children are an invitation to _____ more deeply.
3. Children are an invitation to _____. (Mark 9:35-37)

Welcoming Children Looks Like:

1. Trusting God with your _____ and _____.
2. Making _____ for children in your life.
3. Being _____ with the children in your life.

Welcoming Children _____ our _____ for the gospel.

What is one of your favorite childhood memories? What did you enjoy about your childhood and what do you wish was different about your childhood?

Read back over Mark 10:13-16. Try to picture this scene in your mind. What do you think it was about Jesus that make kids enjoy being around him?

What are some of the ways in your own life where children can end up feeling like a burden rather than a gift?

Do you struggle with feeling like the time you spend with children is insignificant or trivial? How can you “zoom out” in order to see that all these small moments with children really matter?



As you think about the time you have spent with children, what are some of the things you've learned from them? What are some of the lessons God has used children to teach you?

Where are you experiencing the greatest heartache or pain in relation to children currently in your life? How can other people support you and pray for you in the midst of this?

What are the ways you are (or can) make space for children in your life? How can parents do this? Grandparents? Aunts and Uncles? The Church as a whole?

What are some of the ways you seek to be intentional with the kids in your life? How do you try to provide them with undivided time and attention? How do you seek to talk with them about God and point them to Jesus?

- *If you are a parent, what are the different habits you have in your home that you practice in an effort to disciple your children?*

How has being around children continued to expose your need for the gospel and God's grace?

Further Resources

- [The Pro-Child Life: Three Ways We Love the Littlest – Scott Hubbard](#)
- [The Inefficient Ministry of Motherhood – Amanda Criss](#)
- [25 Tiny Ways to Welcome Kids in Church – Megan Hill](#)
- [A Passion for Reaching the Next Generation – Joel Wood](#)