

The Value of a Child

I. WHAT VALUE DOES THE MODERN WORLD PLACE ON A CHILD?

- A. In developing countries

- B. In developed countries

- C. Why is the child undermined?

II. HOW THE CHURCH TREATS THE CHILD vs GOD'S CONCEPT ABOUT CHILDREN



Mark 10:13-16

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ 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." ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

- A. How the church often treats the child.
 - 1. Like the disciples, we hinder them.
 - 2. We do not teach them the Word of God at home.
 - 3. We are not happy to see the children at church.
 - 4. We think children will not understand salvation.
 - 5. We belittle a child's feeling of guilt and sin.

- B. What was Jesus' attitude toward the children?
 - 1. He took them into His arms.
 - 2. He was not afraid of them or tired of them.
 - 3. He was indignant when they were hindered.
 - 4. He welcomed them.
 - 5. He blessed them.

C. Every child is a possession of God

1. Every child is as precious to God as every adult. They were all bought with the blood of Jesus Christ.



Rev. 20:12

¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.



Rev. 5:9

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

2. God does not want any child to perish.



Mark 18:12-14

¹² "What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. ¹⁴ In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

III. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD CHILDREN

A. We need to have God's attitude

1. We need to have Christ's attitude for all people, including children.
 - Jesus was moved with compassion for them because they are like sheep without a shepherd. **(Matt. 9:36)**
 - Jesus saw that they are like a ripe harvest. **(John 4:34-38)**
2. We need to become like children.



Matt. 18:1-5

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ² He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³ And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

B. Why is a child fit for the Kingdom of God?

1. A child's heart is pure.
(Not because he is not sinless, but he has no ulterior motives for his actions.)
2. A small child does not seek for his own profit.
3. A child easily trusts without questioning.
4. A child understands secrets of God in his heart.
(Even John the Baptist struggled to understand. -Matt. 11:1-6)
5. A child is humble and admits his ignorance.
6. A child's heart is willing to forgive and forget.

C. We need to raise up the church of the future

**Matt. 18:10**

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven."

1. Jesus warned to not despise the little ones.
2. Children are the church of the future.
3. We want to lead the children to Jesus early so they can serve Jesus at a young age, and He will get the reward for His suffering.

*"Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it."
-Prov. 22:6*