

Series: Encounters with Christ

Jesus and the Little Children

Preschool Sunday

Mark 9:33-37 (NIV)

They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?"³⁴ But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

³⁵ *Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."*

³⁶ *He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them,³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."*

1. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE TO SERVE FUTURE GENERATIONS BECAUSE OF JESUS.

v. 35 *"...If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."*

Matthew 20:27 (CEV)

And if you want to be first, you must be the slave of the rest.

"You cannot change your ancestors, but you can do something about your descendants." Author Unknown

Proverbs 13:24 (NLT)

If you refuse to discipline your children, it proves you don't love them; if you love your children, you will be prompt to discipline them.

- Serving our children is not the same as spoiling them.
- Serving our children means doing what is best for them.
- Serving our children means making every provision possible for their success.

2. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE TO WELCOME FUTURE GENERATIONS FOR JESUS.

v. 37 *"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me..."*

Luke 9:48 (NIV)

Then he said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

- Children know when they are loved and valued.
- Loving our children is one way to demonstrate our love for Jesus.
- Jesus demonstrates how much he loves little children.

3. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE TO INTRODUCE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO JESUS

- We are always one generation away from losing Christianity.
- We must love little children enough to introduce them to Jesus.
- Our hope for the future is in our preschool department today.

What are you willing to do to show the same kind of love Jesus had for little children?