

SERMON NOTES



This week's sermon
It's a Small World After All!
Mark 10:13-16

1. It's the family that is primarily responsible for the spiritual well-being and growth of their children. Parents, take your children to Jesus!
2. The Church must serve as an advocate for families and especially for children.
3. The thing which commends children to Christ is their helplessness, not their goodness. And this is precisely what must characterize every person who comes into the kingdom--they come as those who are helpless and undeserving, entering into His blessings because of God's goodness and grace, not due to their own merits.

Digging Deeper Into the Message

Read Deuteronomy chapter 8 and summarize the warning that the Lord gives to His people and how it applies to us today.

Contrast King Asa's response to a challenge in 2 Chronicles 14 and then in 2 Chronicles 16. What do you think caused this shift in King Asa's approach to the challenges he faced?

How does 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 comfort or encourage you in trials?

Read what Jesus said in John 15:1-11. What purpose and outcome do you see with the pruning? As we depend on Jesus for everything, what is the result?

Meditate on Psalm 73:21-26. Choose one or more verses of it to memorize.

Community Group

Icebreaker: Tell a story about a funny thing a child did or said. (Or something you did as a child!)

Discussion Questions:

If the group decided on an application point from last week, talk about how everyone did with it.

Read Mark 10: 13-16 and the first MAP point. What was something good that you saw modeled at home growing up? How did that help you seek Truth and connect with Jesus?

Read the next MAP point. In what ways do you see the church advocating for families? What other ideas do you have to address the needs of children in distress? What are some ideas for promoting spiritual growth in children and families?

Read the last MAP point. In what ways do you find this statement challenging? How does it give you a sense of relief?

Pastor Michael spoke of the danger of self-reliance and used this quote: "Every believer must learn that human weakness and divine grace go hand in hand together." Tell about a time you saw God work through a trial or your own weakness.

What else would you like to discuss from the sermon, application or Digging Deeper?

Application: Contact a family you know that may be struggling to encourage them. Pray about how to be supportive to them.