

Discipleship

Lesson - 4 Discipling Children

(Sermon on Jesus and the children)

Memory Verse

Matthew 21:16 (NKJV) *and said to Him, “Do You hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes. Have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise’?”*

The Hebrew Child’s Advantage

Psalm 127:3–5 (NKJV) *Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward. ⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one’s youth. ⁵ Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.*

***Genesis 16:2** (NKJV) *So Sarai said to Abram, “See now, the Lord has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her.”*

Genesis 30:1 (NKJV) *Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister, and said to Jacob, “Give me children, or else I die!”*

Their Value- Which would you save. Old woman or 10 year old?

Jeremiah 7:31 (NKJV) *And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into My heart.*

Genesis 18:19 (NKJV) *For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.”*

“Parents have a sacred responsibility and charge committed to them, and they are called upon to keep their charge, to bear their responsibility in the fear of God, watching for the souls of their children as they who must give an account.” {CSW 44.1}

Deuteronomy 4:9–10 (NKJV) *Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren, ¹⁰ especially concerning the day you stood before the Lord your God in Horeb, when the Lord said to me, ‘Gather the people to Me, and I will let them hear My*

words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.’

Deuteronomy 6:6–7 (NKJV) *“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.*

***Proverbs 22:6** (NKJV) *Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.*

Jesus’ Childhood

Luke 2:40 (NKJV) *And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.*

The child Jesus did not receive instruction in the synagogue schools. His mother was His first human teacher. From her lips and from the scrolls of the prophets, He learned of heavenly things. The very words which He Himself had spoken to Moses for Israel He was now taught at His mother’s knee.-Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 70.

***Luke 2:51–52** (NKJV) *Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.*

Average life expectancy in USA 78 years a child for 1/7 of your life

Not Children Forever

Children speak differently

1 Cor 13:11 *When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. We have an eternal future!*

Children Think Differently

1 Cor 14:20 *Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature.*

Children Eat Differently

Hebrews 5:13–14 (NKJV) *For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

Healing The Children

Matthew 9:18–26 *While He spoke these things to them, behold, a ruler came and worshiped Him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come*

and lay Your hand on her and she will live.”¹⁹ So Jesus arose and followed him, and so did His^p disciples. ...

Mark 7:24–30 From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre⁸ and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know it, but He could not be^b hidden.²⁵ For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and^c fell at His feet.

²⁶ The woman was a⁹ Greek, a¹ Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept² asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.²⁷ But Jesus said to her, “**Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.**”²⁸ And she answered and said to Him, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children’s crumbs.”²⁹ Then He said to her, “**For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter.**”³⁰ And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.

Luke 9:38–43³⁸ Suddenly a man from the multitude cried out, saying, “Teacher, I implore You, look on my son, for he is my only child.³⁹ And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out; it convulses him so that he foams at the mouth; and it departs from him with great difficulty, bruising him.⁴⁰ So I implored Your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.”⁴¹ Then Jesus answered and said, “**O⁶ faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you and⁷ bear with you? Bring your son here.**”⁴² And as he was still coming, the demon threw him down and convulsed him. Then Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the child, and gave him back to his father.

A Fearsome Warning

***Matthew 11:25–26** At that time Jesus answered and said, “**I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.**

Matthew 18:1–6 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”² Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them,³ and said, “**Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.**⁴ Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.⁵ Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin,

it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

***Matthew 18:10–11** “**Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.**¹¹ For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.

1 Peter 2:1–2 (NKJV) Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

Suffer the Little Children

Mark 10:13–16^{13g} Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, “**Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for^h of such is the kingdom of God.**¹⁵ Assuredly, I say to you,ⁱ whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will^j by no means enter it.”

¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

Among the Jews it was customary for children to be brought to some rabbi, that he might lay his hands upon them in blessing; but the Savior’s disciples thought His work too important to be interrupted in this way. When the mothers came to Him with their little ones, the disciples looked on them with disfavor. They thought these children too young to be benefited by a visit to Jesus, and concluded that He would be displeased at their presence. But it was the disciples with whom He was displeased. The Savior understood the care and burden of the mothers who were seeking to train their children according to the word of God. He had heard their prayers. He Himself had drawn them into His presence. DA 511

Mat 18:2-6 Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, and said, “**Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.** “Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. “Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. “But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Jesus And The Children

Mark 10:13-16

The Devil Hates Children

Their innocence, purity, They remind him he cannot create.

Their Value- Which would you save. Old woman or 10 year old?

Having A Child Is A Big Responsibility

Luke 14:28 *"For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it;*

We Learn From Children

Gen 5:22-24 *After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.*

Children Bring Joy

John 16:21 *"A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world.*

Prov 29:3 *Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice, ...*

Psa 127:3-5 *Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them;*

Children Get Hungry

Mat 7:9, 10 *"Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? "Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent?"*

Mark 7:27 *But Jesus said to her, "Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."*

Children Need Families – 2 slides

1 John 3:1 *Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!*

A husband and wife become one flesh in their children.

SAY A PRAYER

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away. 'Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer.' said his mother.

'I don't need to,' the boy replied.

'Of course, you do,' his mother insisted. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house,' Johnny explained. 'But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook!'

Children Have Hungry Minds – 3 Slides

Mat 14:21 *Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children.*

Isa 1:18 *"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, ... "*

Ask and you shall receive.

Psa 144:3 *LORD, what is man, that You take knowledge of him? Or the son of man, that You are mindful of him?*

The greatest complement is when children listen- Simple Sermons!

Children Are Uninhibited -2 slides

Run around naked. Look out Dad, She's backing up!

A baby is a loud noise at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other. -- Ronald Knox Kid's want to rub my head.

Children Can Praise! 2 Slides

Triumphal entry
Mat 21:15, 16 *But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"*

And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise'?"

We Can Be Children Again

Luke 18:17 *"Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."*

John 1:12 *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:*

Rom 8:16, 17 *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, ...*

Children Are Like Their Parents

John 8:44 *"You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.* Which parent Are You Like?

- Children are natural mimics who act like their parents in spite of every attempt to teach them good manners.
- Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them. - James Baldwin

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn and be judgmental.

If children live with hostility, they learn to be angry and fight.

If children live with ridicule, they learn to be shy and withdrawn.

If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.

If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient.

If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.

If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate.

If children live with fairness, they learn justice.

If children live with security, they learn to have faith.

If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.

If children live with acceptance and friendship, they learn to find love in the world. - Dorothy Knolte

1 Pet 1:14, 15 *As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;*

1. **There are three ways to teach children, example, example, and example.**
2. **What is important to you will be important to them.**
3. **Children will adopt the values of the ones they spend time with.**
4. **Always discipline in love and never from anger.**

Psa 128:1-6 *Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, Who walks in His ways. When you eat the labor of your hands, You shall be happy, and it shall be well with you. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine In the very heart of your house, Your children like olive plants All around your table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed Who fears the LORD.*

"Christ is to be represented in the home circle. Fathers and mothers bear a weighty responsibility; for they will be held accountable for giving correct lessons to their children. They are to speak kindly to them, to be patient with them, to watch unto prayer, praying the Lord to mold and fashion the hearts of the children; but while asking God to mold and fashion the characters of the children, let mothers and fathers act their part, presenting to their offspring a living representation of the divine Pattern. God will not accept haphazard work at your hands. Your children are God's heritage, and heavenly angels are watching to see that both parents and children are co-laborers with God in building up character after the divine Model. "Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching."
R&H 1895

A child between eighteen and thirty-six months of age is a sheer delight, but he can also be utterly maddening. He is inquisitive, short-tempered, demanding, cuddly, innocent, and dangerous at the same time. I find it fascinating to watch him run through his day, seeking opportunities to crush things, flush things, kill things, spill things, fall off things, eat horrible things-and think up ways to rattle his mother. - James C. Dobson