



Are you like me and think that we have made religion and following Jesus more complicated than it needs to be? When I read Mark 10:14 I heard God saying that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are childlike. We read about Jesus being frustrated and angry at His disciples when they stopped the children coming to Him. At first I thought that being childlike spoke of a child's innocence, but I have come to believe that there's more to it than that. I took a course on Children's Ministry back home and in it was a module where I had to spend a number of weeks in a Kindergarten class. I had to engage and observe how the children interacted with each other and the adults around them. It was the most eye-opening experience for me and it really helped me better understand what Scripture was telling me. There is so much we can learn from the little children in our lives. The one thing that I love about little children is the sense of wonder they display. To children everything is an adventure. From jumping over puddles, or jumping into the middle of the puddle, everything is new experience and everything is a new discovery. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we still saw the world this way? They explore without any worry, which is so different from us who have so many anxieties that hinder us

from trying new things. Somehow on our growth into adulthood we learn about fear and we forget that our Father will protect and guide us. Kids ask question after question and their sense of curiosity is infectious. Then there are us adults who live without that sense of wonder and curiosity flooding our lives. We live life according to our assumptions and experiences in life. Kids don't overthink what's going to happen next week or next year the way we do. We are always planning and scheduling and organizing, trying to get everything done. There isn't anything wrong with that but we need to balance this with the understanding that life is more fulfilling when we're living in the present. God wants us to live in the moment and not think about what we have already done or still have to do.



Another great quality that we need to learn from children is to forgive quickly. As adults we struggle to let things go. We tend to let moments of hurt and pain haunt us forever. We need to learn from our experiences and move on. It's not always easy, but I figured out that because God has forgiven me then I need to forgive others. We have to rediscover a childlike heart. Mark 10:15 tells us, "Whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God as a child will not enter it." You see what I am saying? We have a lot to learn from our little ones and so we need to pay attention. So, can I encourage you to never lose your sense of wonder, stay present, forgive quickly, and live your life with a childlike faith that sees the true character of God and who believes that with Jesus all things are possible. Having faith like a child means we should have confidence in the promises of Christ and faith even in situations where we cannot see. When Jesus told His disciples that they needed to become childlike to make it into the kingdom of God, He was not saying they should become childish. Rather, He meant they shouldn't fear the unknown and He stays the same to you and me today.