

PRAYER

Thank you, dearest Jesus, that You welcomed me into Your loving arms, to be with You forever. Hold on to me. Never set me down or let me get away. Amen.

Memory

1. “Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy” (Exodus 20:8).
2. “Let the little children come to Me, and don’t keep them away. God’s kingdom belongs to such as these” (Luke 18:16).

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Emmaus Bible Lessons

Series 1: The First Three Commandments

Study #13 of 13: Let the Children Come (Luke 18:15-17)

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Emmaus Bible Lessons

Series 1: The First Three Commandments

Study #13 of 13

Third Commandment *Let the Children Come*



God says to you in the third commandment,
“Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy”
(Exodus 20:8).

THIS MEANS you must believe Christian
worship is required of everyone, even you.

Bible Reading: Luke 18:15-17

Questions and Answers For Understanding This Bible Story

1. Why were people bringing babies and children to Jesus?

People were bringing babies and children to Jesus to have Him touch them. They could see that Jesus loves children. They knew it would be a good thing for their children to be near Jesus, so they brought the children to Him.

2. What foolish thing did the disciples try to do? What were the disciples not understanding about Jesus and His love for us?

Foolishly, the disciples tried to keep the children away from Jesus. Maybe they thought Jesus was too busy for the children. Maybe they thought He had more important things to do. However, the disciples did not understand that Jesus had come to the earth for ALL people, including children. Jesus loves all people, including children. Jesus wants to be with children and babies, showing His love for them.

3. What makes people sometimes think that worship is not important for children and babies?

Sometimes people foolishly think that, because babies cannot speak or little children cannot read the bulletin or the hymnal, worship is not important for them. But little children need worship just like adults do! Worship is where Jesus comes to be with us, just as He was with the little children in this Bible Story. Worship is where Jesus speaks His Words to us, even to little children! Worship is mostly about what Jesus does for children and babies (and adults, too!), NOT about what children and babies might do for Jesus.

4. What does this Bible story teach you about the importance of worship for everyone, including children and babies?

Parents who do not take their children to worship should change their minds and listen to Jesus' Words here: "Let the little children come to Me, and don't keep them away." Parents, grandparents and other adults allow the children to come to Jesus by faithfully bringing them to worship.

5. What does Jesus say about His kingdom in this story? In what way are these Words especially comforting for you?

Jesus says that His kingdom comes to those who receive it "like a little child." These Words are comforting in two ways: First, Jesus says that you receive His kingdom. That is to say, you do not need to go someplace to find His kingdom. Jesus brings His kingdom to you and gives it to you. You might even say that Jesus pours His kingdom into you, in the same way that someone might pour water into a drinking glass for you. This is comforting because Jesus assures you with these Words that you do not need to try to get into His kingdom. He does all the work for you, bringing His kingdom to you through His Words!

The other comforting thing that Jesus says here is that His kingdom comes even to little children. This means that even tiny babies, while still in their mothers' arms, can be part of Jesus kingdom! This is also why little babies get baptized soon after they are born. In Baptism, Jesus brings His kingdom and gives His kingdom to even the smallest children.