

3 Things Every Child needs

Key Scriptures:

Exodus 2:1-4 And a man of the house of Levi went and took as wife a daughter of Levi. ² So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months. ³ But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank. ⁴ And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.

1 Samuel 1:26-28 ²⁶ And she said, "O my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood by you here, praying to the LORD. ²⁷ "For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition which I asked of Him. ²⁸ Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.

Mark 10:13-16 ¹³ 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 of such is the kingdom of God." ¹⁵ "Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

Key Point: Every child needs to know they are valuable, have someone faithfully praying for them, and have someone who will point them to Jesus.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- From your memory growing up as a child, what are the things you had enough of, abundance of, and lacked?

Reflect, Think, & Share: Read through the key scriptures and share any observations or questions with the group. From the sermon given in the first service, our speaker listed Three things every child needs: Exodus 2:1-4 - they need to see their own value and worth; 1 Samuel 1:26-28 - they need someone who is praying for them; Mark 10:13-16 - they need someone to introduce them to the savior.

- Moses' mother took significant risks to protect him. What do her actions teach us about recognizing and protecting the value God places on every child?
- Why did it matter that Moses was "a beautiful child?" What are some of the values underlying this term "beautiful child?" (see Exod 2:2 & Acts 7:19-20, read how different Bible versions translate the term). What are some practical ways we can help children understand that they are valuable and loved?
- Hannah prayed for a child and later entrusted Samuel to the Lord. What does this passage teach us about the importance of prayer in a child's life?
- How can we pray more intentionally for the children in our families, church, and community? What specific things should we be praying for beyond their safety and success?
- What did Jesus mean when He said, "such is the Kingdom of God," referring to little children?
- Why do you think people wanted Jesus to touch the children? What does Jesus' response reveal about His heart toward children and their place in the kingdom of God?
- What are some ways we can help children develop their own relationship with Jesus rather than simply expecting them to adopt the faith of the adults around them?
- Of these three needs—knowing their worth, having someone pray for them, and being introduced to Jesus—which do you think is most often overlooked in our culture today? Why?

Start doing: Think about a child in your life or in your church. What is one specific thing you could do this week to help that child understand their value, know they are being prayed for, or grow closer to Jesus?

Prayer: Do you have any specific decisions or areas of life where you could use prayer from others? If you feel comfortable, share these issues with your study group so that they can pray with you and for you.

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