

A.M. OUTLINE
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BLESS THE CHILDREN

(Mark 10:13-16)

(Mark 10:13-16) "Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. 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. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it. And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them"

1. BLESS - BY ENCOURAGING THEM

The parents of the children only wanted Jesus to "touch them;" the disciples didn't want the children to disturb their meeting with Jesus; and Jesus was displeased with that, and He said encouraging words, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them."

(Psalm 127:3) "children are a heritage from the Lord" and (Matthew 18:10) "Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones"

Encourage parents of young children to keep bringing them to Bible class and worship assembly.

2. BLESS - BY SETTING AN EXAMPLE BEFORE THEM (a good example)

The example of the disciples was horrible; so, Jesus leads by example: "He took them up into His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them."

The power of an example is told in (2 Timothy 1:5), and we are admonished to follow the good example of others: (1 Corinthians 11:1 and 1 Peter 2:21).

Think of someone in the congregation who has been an example to you.

3. BLESS - BY SEEING THE FUTURE OF A CHILD

When the disciples saw the children, they saw problems (noise, disruption, distraction), but Jesus saw a child's future.

"for of such is the kingdom of God" - these children will one day become Christians; also, it is the attitude of child-likeness (not childish) that one must have to trust and obey the gospel message when they get older to enter the kingdom.

4. BLESS - BY INTRODUCING THEM TO JESUS

Jesus told the disciples, "Do not forbid them."

Apostle Paul charged fathers, (Ephesians 6:4) "fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord"

Paul reminded Timothy of this value: (2 Tim. 3:15) "from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith ..."

(Ecclesiastes 12:1) "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, (they will say) I have no pleasure in them." (do it now, while they are young)