

Sunday May 22
A Receptive Heart
Mark 10:13-16

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them.

¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Luke 18:15-17

¹⁵ People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them.

¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

¹⁷ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Matthew 19:13-15

¹³ Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them.

¹⁴ Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." ¹⁵ When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

Good Morning First Baptist Members and Friends! I greet you this morning with the joy that comes from knowing that Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe, Sin had left a crimson stain, but Jesus washed me white as snow. I don't know about you but sometimes I just have to remember that I am not on this journey alone. Jesus is with me and has promised never to leave me or forsake me.

This is the 4th Sunday of our Friends and Family month. I want to thank each of you who invited your family and friends to worship with us. It has been a joy to see them all and especially those I do not get to see very often. I also want to thank those of you that arranged your schedule so you could be with us for our Annual Mother and Daughter event. Let us thank the entire committee, the Music Ministry, the Praise Dance Ministry, the ushers, and all those who attended and prayed for us.

Our speaker, Mrs. Jan Dan, challenged us with scriptures and personal experiences to remember that we are not only to praise God, but we are to remember those things that God has already done so that in the hard times we can still praise Him. Finally, Mrs. Dunn reminded us of the requirement to share the experiences that we have had with God, with others. I remember once being at a religious conference and a woman said to me, "you got a story about everything." I smiled and very gently said, "...when I look back over my life and see where He has brought me from... I can't help but tell my story."

This month we have been looking and prayerfully considering the Good News as recorded by Luke, the event for this week's study is also recorded by Mark and Matthew. It is in reading all three that I gain insight into the sermon we need to hear for this morning. Please pray with me and for me as I work with a question and an answer as a theme:

ARE WE THERE YET? NO.

SHALL WE PRAY?

Father God, thank you for allow us to approach your throne of grace. We know that all things work together for good and according to your purpose. So we are

asking if it is in your will and your purpose allow us to hear from heaven today. Do not punish us because we have failed in the past week. Do not close your ears and your heart to our cries. Feed us today, so that we might be renewed and able to feed others. Please do for us what we cannot do for ourselves. Abba, I need you, we need you. Please look and have mercy. In the name of your Son Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen and Amen.

Mark 10:13-16

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THIS IS NOT A COMPLETE SERMON BUT AN OUTLINE OF THE KEY CONCEPTS

- Explain the differences in Mark, Matthew, and Luke's reporting of the events
- Highlight that people were bringing – not sending, dropping off – but bringing
- Talk about who these “people” might be in our context

- Review what the disciples tried to do... don't dwell on why – just the action
- Explore Jesus' response
- Highlight “kingdom of God” and “kingdom of heaven”

Illustrate examples of positive childlike behavior

- humility
- forgiving
- inquisitive

Illustrate examples of childish behavior

- quick to speak without thinking
- temper tantrums
- always wanting to be first

Application for us

- ✓ We are to be childlike not childish
- ✓ We are to be humble not haughty
- ✓ Infants and children are part of the Evangelistic plan of Jesus

ARE WE THERE YET? NO.