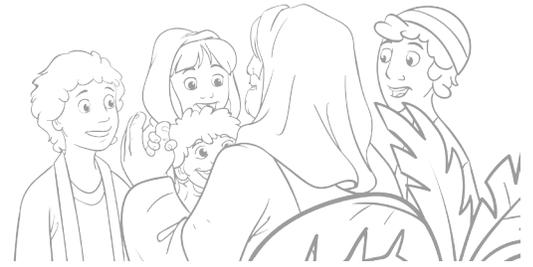


JESUS LOVES THE CHILDREN

MATTHEW 19:13-15; MARK 10:13-16; LUKE 18:15-17



UNDERSTANDING THE STORY:

One day, little children were brought to Jesus.

- *Who do you think brought the children to Jesus? What did they want Jesus to do for the children?*
- *What kinds of things do you think the children had heard about Jesus? Imagine what it would have been like to go and see Jesus. Do you think the children were excited?*

As they were coming to Jesus, someone tried to stop them and send them away.

- *Who tried to send the children away? Were they able to send them away?*
- *When Jesus saw what the disciples were doing, how did He feel about it? (Mark 10:14)*
- *What does this teach us about Jesus? (He wants children to come to Him. He loves children)*

Instead of sending the children away, Jesus called them close to Himself.

- *What did Jesus do for the children? (Took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.)*

SIMPLE TRUTHS:

The Bible says that Jesus does not change; He stays the same.

- *If Jesus wanted children to come to Him in this story, does Jesus still want children to come to Him?*
- *How can we come to Jesus if we cannot see Him with our eyes? (We come to Jesus by praying to Him, loving Him, and listening to and obeying His words.)*

The disciples tried to stop the children from coming to Jesus.

- *If anyone tries to stop us from praying to Jesus, or listening to His words, what should we do?*
- *Jesus died on the cross so that our sins wouldn't keep us away from God. Think about how much Jesus loves you! He died for YOU and He wants you to love Him with all of your heart!*
- *Let's talk to Jesus and thank Him for loving us!*

Jesus loved the children in this story and He loves every child alive today. Jesus wants children to be part of God's big family and go to heaven.

- *Will you love Jesus and follow Him for your whole life? Do you want to pray and talk to Jesus about that now?*
- *If we believe in Jesus and we have our sins forgiven, isn't it wonderful that one day we will get to be in heaven forever and ever?*

AND REMEMBER...

Jesus loves you so much and wants you to be with Him in heaven one day!

MEMORY VERSE:

"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.'"
Matthew 19:14