

Children

Read Matthew 18:1-6; 19:13-14; John 1:11-13

When we grow self-absorbed,
children can seem unworthy of our attention.

They can be
noisy,
troublesome,
requiring almost-constant care,
immature,
difficult to reason and communicate with,
a very long-term investment,
and an uncertain one at that, and
without power or influence in our adult world.

But Jesus,
who embodied the self-giving love of the Father,
saw them differently.

Though He had so much to do
and very little time to do it,
He insisted on spending time with them.

He held them up as models of greatness in the Kingdom of heaven.

He urged us to emulate their humility.

He said that as we receive one of them in His name,
we are receiving Him.

He warned of dire consequences for
anyone who dared abuse one of them.

He laid His loving hands on them.

He prayed for them.

He blessed them.

But more than that, He Himself lived as the
humble,
obedient,
devoted,
completely dependent child of His heavenly Father.

And He taught and enabled us to live the same.

What great privilege did He grant
to the few who received Him in this unbelieving world?

*As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God,
to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of
the flesh, nor of the will of a man, but of God. (John 1:12-13, NASB)*

So live like Jesus.

Live as the

humble,

obedient,

devoted,

completely dependent child of your heavenly Father.

In all the world,

there is no greater honor.

There is no greater possibility.

Hymn: [We Are Children](#)

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