

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, November 15, 2015

Passage: Mark 10:13-16

Memory Passage: Mark 10:15

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 10:13-16.** Who brought the children to Jesus?
- (b) Why did they want Jesus to “touch” their children?
- (c) For what reason did the disciples rebuke these parents (remember what we learned about children’s status in 8:36-37)?
- (d) How strong was the response of the disciples (consider the context of the other 7x Mark uses this word: 1:25; 4:39; 8:32, 33; 9:25; 10:48; 16:14)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 10:13-16.** “Indignant” (v. 14) is attributed to Jesus only here, and the Greek word carries the idea of “anger against what is assumed to be wrong.” Why do you think Jesus responds so strongly to the disciples’ actions?
- (b) What is “the kingdom of God?” and who are its inhabitants?
- (c) Explain what Jesus means when He says, “to such belongs the kingdom of God.”
- (d) Review your answers to (b) & (c). Do your answers square with each other? In other words, is there anything in your answer to (c) that invalidates your answer to (b), and vice versa? If so, what change(s) do you need to make in which answer?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 10:13-16.** What quality of a child is Jesus referring to in v. 15 (“receive the kingdom of God like a child)?
- (b) In vs. 14-15 is Jesus saying that all children are members of the kingdom of God? Explain your answer.
- (c) Why is it so important to receive the kingdom of God like a child (without it one “*shall not enter!*”)?
- (d) Defend your answers to these questions (in other words, don’t just answer “yes” or “no”): Do Jesus’ commands to, “let the children come to (Him); do not hinder them,” mean that all children are saved? Doesn’t the fact that the kingdom of God belongs to children allow me to baptize my children?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 10:13-16.** Write a paragraph that details all you learn in these verses concerning what Jesus thought about children.
- (b) In what ways can you as an individual and we as a church body be faithful to both sides of Jesus’ command concerning children: How can you/we “let the children come to Jesus” and how can you/we “not hinder” them from coming to Jesus?
- (c) What is symbolized in Jesus’ actions (v. 16) and in what ways can you as an individual and we as a church body be faithful to emulate Jesus as he “took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them?”
- (d) What specific cultural realities will work against the implementation of the ideas you put forth in (b) & (c)?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 10:13-16, Ex. 22:22-24, Deut. 24:17-21, Is. 1:16-17, 23, Jer. 5:28, Zech. 7:9-10, & James 1:27.** The OT exhorts us concerning “the fatherless” 42 times, either affirming justice & care for them, rebuking those who neglect justice & care for them, or commending God as one who cares for & acts justly toward them. As you read a few of these passages, make a list of how God expects and does not expect His people to act with relation to the fatherless & orphans.
- (b) In what ways can you as an individual and we as a church body be faithful to God’s commands concerning the fatherless & orphans? Be specific in your application by answering questions such as: What must I/we change in order to be more faithful? What must I/we add to our current life in order to be more faithful? What must I/we sacrifice in order to be more faithful?

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