



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - August 21, 2011

Sermon

Lessons in Stained Glass:

“Jesus Holding a Little Child”

Luke 18:15-17

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember about this sermon...

Monday 8/22/11

Proverbs 8:32

Do you remember that old saying, “Children should be seen and not heard?” Many of us grew up in an era where this thinking was predominant. Children were supposed to tow the line, obey the rules, and never ever talk back. Times have changed, to be sure, and our perspective on children has changed, too. How do you view children today? Do you spend any quality time with children as Jesus did?

Tuesday 8/23/11

Matthew 1:18

Many of us forget that Jesus was a child, too. He came into the world when Mary gave birth in Bethlehem. We don't have many stories about Jesus as a child, but we can certainly imagine how he must have enjoyed his childhood. He more than likely played with other children in Nazareth and did the things other children did in his day. We were all children one day, too. Do you remember your childhood? What do you remember about it?

Wednesday 8/24/11

Acts 3:25

Yes, we were all children and we are all still children today. This verse in acts says you are children of God. That's right, no matter how old you are today, you are still God's child. We experience this in our lives--no matter how old our children get, they are still our children. Many of us were taught to pray to our Heavenly Father because we are God's children. This should help us to remember the value of children no matter our age. Children are important to our family, our community, and to our church. How are you valuing children today? How do you view what children are doing these days? What do children need more than ever today?



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

How can I find a way to spend more time with children?

What is my view of children today? Is this view similar to Jesus' view of children?

Thursday 8/25/11
Matthew 18:1-5

The disciples were arguing among themselves so they went to Jesus to settle their disagreement. "Who is the greatest in the kingdom?" This sort of reminds me of that quote, "Who is the fairest of them all?" Interestingly, Jesus does not answer their question directly or in the manner they expected. Rather, Jesus called a little child and placed him before them. Then he said they needed to become like this little child. What does this mean to you? Are you like a little child?

Friday 8/26/11
Matthew 19:13-15

People were bringing children to Jesus so he could put his hands on them and pray. The disciples did not like this. Why? Why did the disciples rebuke the parents of those children? Do we ever see children being turned away today? Where? How do we treat children in our church? Are we doing everything we can to accept them? What more can we do for children in our church?

Saturday 8/27/11
Mark 9:37

Jesus said, "Whosoever receives a child in my name, receives me." Obviously, children were important to Jesus and he wanted others to see the importance in children, too. Jesus is very clear about this. Are you willing to receive a child and treat him or her with the same respect as you treat Jesus? In the church, we baptize children, we give them a Bible when they reach the 3rd Grade, and we confirm them into church membership. What more can we do for our children? What can you personally do to receive a child in the way Jesus suggests?