

THE BIG IDEA: Love like a child.

Matthew 18: 1- 4

Matthew 21:15, 16

Title of my message is: Love **like a** child

How are we as children of God now that we are grown and independent? Do we still have a child like love for God or a causal relationship with God? Are we like, I'll come to you only when I need something. I'll thank you only when good things happen me and help me now because I don't know what to do.

You know what..... That might be the case but the love I'm talking about is an attitude a child has when he/she loves. No motives attached to it, without reservations.

Now we all might be on different levels which is fine, but I believe that this question applies to all of us. Do I love God as his child? Children are naturally drawn to develop relationship. Children are very sensitive they know something is wrong with their mother or father.

Children speak the truth with innocents and want good to overtake evil. Children like to be around their parents, interacting with them. An NIV commentary says: the disciples must have forgotten what Jesus said about children. Jesus wanted little children to come to him because he loves them and because they have the child-like attitude needed to approach God. All adults need the heart and attitude of a child when seeking God.

Children's hearts and attitudes:

- They don't hold grudges
- They trust
- They act silly
- They are humble
- Unworldly
- They laugh

As adults we have lost the sense of urgency of what it is like to rest and enter into God's presence. A reason is because our hearts have become harden to where it has become conditioned to worldly desires. We worry, stress, work hard, and focus on money. Whether how to make more of it or how to use, ex. paying bills. We all have responsibilities, but sometimes we get too caught up in the hustle and bustle of life and our hearts are not on God. Jerm. 29:13 say you will seek me and find when you seek me with all your heart.

Engage: My parents use to say to me 'you think you're grown or you're too grown'... (ask the audience to remember when that was told to them.)

God is saying 'you are too grown...your hearts and minds are on the wrong things and are in the wrong places.'

Love like a child. (Video clip)

Today's Big Idea: Love like a child

Ways a child loves:

- 1) Fully believe
- 2) Completely trust
- 3) Be humbled

Ways a father receives love:

- 1) Honored
- 2) Thankful
- 3) Humility

Ways God gives love:

- 1) Protective
- 2) Giving
- 3) Loving

Read Matt. 21:15-16

God will always see you as his child. Regardless if your 5 or 40, you're God's child.

1 John 2:28; 3: 1, 10

Have a child heart attitude. It's a heart change beloved.

Why would God be saying this to you? The reason may be that some of you might not be children of God's, but He want you to be.

Alter call: In John 3:3, Jesus said unless one is born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God.