

VBS Recap

Luke 18:15-17

Week of June 23, 2024

BELONG

Ask this Ice Breaker Question: Can you share a fond memory from your childhood that reminds you of feeling loved and cared for?

BELIEVE

Have someone in your group read aloud: Luke 18:15-17

Ask these questions to prompt group discussion:

- 1. Why do you think the disciples rebuked the people for bringing babies to Jesus? How does Jesus' response challenge their actions?**

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):

- *Reflect on the cultural and societal attitudes towards children during the time of Jesus. Children were considered slightly more important than property or animals. Children were to be rarely seen and never heard.*
- *Consider how this action reflects the disciples' understanding of who was worthy of Jesus' attention.*

- 2. What qualities of children do you think Jesus is referring to when he says, "the kingdom of God belongs to such as these"? How can adults cultivate these qualities in their own spiritual lives?**

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):

- *Discuss attributes such as innocence, trust, dependence, and humility.*
- *Explore how these characteristics contrast with the qualities often valued in adults.*

- 3. In what ways can our church community better welcome and value children, following Jesus' example?**

BECOME:

Consideration of Recent Statistics: As we reflect on this passage, let's also consider recent statistics on childhood conversions to Christianity.

- A recent International Bible Society study has shown that 83% of Christians come to faith during their childhood years.
- The Barna Research Group indicates that receptivity to the Gospel diminishes over time with kids being the most receptive, youth being half as receptive, and college students having the least receptivity.
- **Reflect:** Why do you think childhood is such a pivotal time for faith development?
- **Plan:** What are some specific programs or activities we can implement to support children in their journey with Jesus?

Close by praying together.