

A Christmas of Compassion: Children 12/10/23

Matthew 18:2-5

Outline

The season has felt so empty, oh for quite a while

I want to feel Christmas like a child ~from Christmas Life a Child

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and they will call him Immanuel – which means, ‘God with us.’”

Matthew 1:22-23

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” John 1:12

He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.” Matthew 18:2-5

I. Becoming Like a Child.

Humility

Unconditional Acceptance

“Where do you draw the assurance of your salvation from?”

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- Their sincerity
- Their past conversion experience
- Their recent religious performance
- The relative infrequency of conscious, willful disobedience.

Joy

“As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears the baby in my womb leaped for joy.”

Luke 1:44

“My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.” Luke 1:46

“I bring you good news of great joy...” Luke 2:10

“When they saw the star they were overjoyed.” Matthew 2:10

“At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit said...” Luke 10:21

“For God loves a cheerful giver!” 2 Corinthians 9:7

Pajama Run!

II. Bless a Child.

“And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.” Matthew 18:2-5

Jesus Experience as a Child

God's Call to Bless Children

Joseph & Jesus

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Reaching the Lost