



As Christian parents we take very seriously the responsibility to raise our children in light of their eternal destiny. This is your consuming desire.

B.L.U.F. (Bottom Line Up Front): *Let's get children to Jesus!*

Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17 – parents were bringing their little children to Jesus, also their babies, for His blessing. Jesus took them up in his arms and blessed them. How can we get our children to Jesus?

1. The Issue of _____ – Who Goes to Heaven?

This passage speaks to the subject of who goes to heaven. This is the context. Who does go to heaven?

1) **Infants & Toddlers v. 16b**

They are safely in Jesus' sheepfold until they one day go astray – Isaiah 53 & Luke 15.

2) **Those Who Act Like Infants & Toddlers v. 17**

Heaven's citizenship is granted to all young children & babies and those who act like them!

⇒ Humble dependence on others

⇒ Receptivity

2. The Issue of _____ – How do You View Children?

The disciples rebuked those who brought the children!!! Jesus was *much displeased* (Mark 10:14). He was angry with them.

Too busy to bother getting children to Jesus?

3. The Issue of _____ – What are You Doing to Get Children to Jesus?

We see a situation where children are blocked from Jesus. What is the solution?

1) Parents, Do Your Job

In Jesus story, the parents *were* doing their job. It was the Christian leaders who were failing. Hold that thought while we see some suggestions for parents.

Some Suggestions for Parents:

- ⇒ Develop a Biblical worldview about babies and children
Be Fruitful & Multiply, What the Bible Says About Having Babies, by Nancy Campbell
Your Child's Profession of Faith, Dennis Gundersen
- ⇒ Talk to your child every day about God
- ⇒ Read the Bible to him/her and pray with him/her
- ⇒ Give your child a memory of YOUR Christianity
- ⇒ Bring your child to every church service
- ⇒ Volunteer to serve in ministries and activities that focus on your child's age group

2) Church, Do Your Job

It was the Christian leaders who messed up. What can we as a church do to make sure we don't make their mistake?

- ⇒ Support the parent in their job
- ⇒ Provide a safety net for children whose parents do not do their job



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Home & church working together!