

BBCC Bible Study Notes
From the series: The Teacher Who Changed the World
“What Jesus Taught About the Value of Children”
April 30, 2017

Matthew 18:1-5, 19:13-15

1. God cares deeply about _____ and so should we.

2. Whatever we do for children _____ takes personally.

Why should you choose to be a sponsor with Children’s Impact Network?

- Their _____: rescuing abused, abandoned and neglected children to give them hope and a future.

- Their _____: meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of children in order to equip them to carry out Christ’s mission in the world.

BBCC Verse of the Week: *“Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.” James 1:27 NLT*

BBC Devotional Guide for April 30 to May 6, 2017

Sunday: Read Matthew 18:1-4. In these verses Jesus uses the example of a child to show his disciples what is needed to enter God's kingdom. What quality of children is Jesus pointing out? How can a lack of humility be a barrier to entering God's kingdom? How is the change that Jesus describes possible?

Monday: Read Matthew 18:5. During the time of Christ, rabbis did not typically teach women or children. Jesus, however, taught women and embraced little children. It is clear that Jesus takes what we do for children personally. What can you do to impact the lives of the children God has placed in your life?

Tuesday: Read Matthew 19:13-14. In these verses the disciples were scolding parents who were bringing their children to Jesus. What did the parents want Jesus to do? Why do you think the disciples were trying to intervene? What does this story teach us about the value God places on children?

Wednesday: Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. In this book of the Bible, God's people are given instructions about how to live in the land God has promised to them. What instructions are given to parents? Why is it important for parents to have God's commands in their own hearts before trying to impress them on their children's hearts? If you are a parent, how can you put these verses into practice in your family?

Thursday: Read Genesis 1:26-27. Human life from conception to death is valuable because we have been made in the image of God. All children are valuable because they have been made in the image of God. In the original language of Genesis, the expression "make man in our image" meant that God made man "into" his image much the same way that a potter would take a lump of clay and form it into a pot. Ask God to help you see your value and the value of others today.

Friday: Read Proverbs 3:12. God is a loving Father who corrects his children for their own good. How does this verse apply to parenting? Read Proverbs 20:7. What does it mean to "walk with integrity"? What kind of blessing do children receive when their parents are fully devoted to following Jesus?

Saturday: Read James 1:27. The author of this book of the Bible is James, the half-brother of Jesus. Who do you think directly influenced James' thinking about caring for orphans and widows? Notice that James talks about caring for orphans and widows "in their distress". How can you be a part of our church's effort to reach out to orphans and widows through our partnership with Children's Impact Network?

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