



Wells of Salvation Ministries

Sermon Outline 2

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“Religion Is Kid Stuff”

Scripture – Mark 10:13-16 Text – Mark 10:15

Introduction: We live in a world tailored for adults. Can you imagine walking around in a land of giants – with everyone towering above you, with furniture, silverware table settings, cars, etc. made for the giants – not you? If you can picture this, you can realize, in part, a child’s environment in this grown-up world. Some time ago my sister was attending a professional basketball game and was away from the playing floor. Her husband called her attention to something – she turned around – and looked right at the belt buckle of Artis Gilmore, the 7-foot 2-inch center for the Kentucky Colonels, who was in street clothes. She must have felt like a child in an adult land! Christianity, however, reverses this process – it calls us adults to the world of the child.

I. Christ Invites Children

1. Let little children come – Mark 10:14
 - A. Give them permission
 - (1) No “adults only”
 - B. Forbids us to forbid them – Mark 10:14
 - (2) Don’t forbid their coming

II. Christ Receives Children

1. Took them in His arms – Mark 10:16
2. Put His hands on them
 - A. Healed little cuts, bruises
 - B. Wiped away dust, tears
 - C. Blessed them
 - (1) Spoke kind words
 - (2) They understood both
 - (a) His manner
 - (b) What He said

III. Christ Defends Children

1. Warns those who offend them – Mark 9:42
 - A. False teachers
 - (1) School
 - (a) No Bible reading
 - (b) No prayer
 - (c) Evolution, but no creation
 - (2) Sunday School
 - (a) All play
 - (b) No pray
 - B. False preachers

- (1) Denying full gospel – e.g., Schweitzer denied divinity of Christ, virgin birth, atonement, miracles, inerrancy of Scriptures, even conventional God (Christian Century 4/7/76). He respected life, but reportedly not God!
- (2) Overlooking sin
- C. Failing parents
 - (1) Instructing wrong way of life
 - (2) Setting poor example – bad habits, disinterest, fighting, no spiritual nurturing
- 2. Pledges punishment of those who offend children
 - A. No idle talk – punishment considered great by implication!
 - (1) Better to have millstone around neck, and be cast into the sea
 - (2) “Ed Wells paraphrase” – Better to wear concrete shoes and be thrown into the Hudson River!

IV. Christ Admires Children

- 1. To be converted, one must be as a child – our sermon text
- 2. Helpless
 - A. Ed’s brother-in-law went to a restaurant where Sandy Allen, the world’s tallest woman (7’ 5+”, 400+ lbs.) came to eat. He observed – “She can have any seat she wants!”
 - B. Child feels helpless, frightened
 - (1) We must realize we cannot save ourselves!
- 3. Dependent
 - A. On others
 - (1) Children aren’t expected to take dinner pail and go to work
 - B. We must depend on God for His saving grace
 - (1) We have nothing to buy salvation with
 - (2) We cannot work hard enough to be saved
- 4. Trusting
 - A. Child from normal home doesn’t worry about food, clothing or shelter
 - B. We trust God to supply our needs – spiritual, mental, physical, material

V. Christ Preserves Children

- 1. During millennium
 - A. Lengthens childhood to 100 years – Isaiah 65:20
 - B. Extends health
 - C. Protects
 - (1) Play at snakes’ den – Isaiah 11:8
- 2. In Heaven
 - A. Of such is the kingdom of heaven – Mark 10:14
 - (1) Every good trait of childhood adds to the jewels of God’s City

Conclusion: Religion is kid stuff! Let’s all be God’s children. We can be – by being born again!