

## Sermon Discussion Questions

**Sermon Title:** “Jesus and the Children (3-18-2018) **Sermon Text:** Mark 10:13-31

**Preacher:** Blake

**Main Idea:** Children are recipients and examples of Christ’s Kingdom.

**Outline:** 1. Children are Recipients of the Kingdom  
2. Children are Examples for the Kingdom

In the sermon, we mainly focused on vv. 13-16, but these verses set up the next episode with the Rich Young Ruler (vv. 17-31). For Parish Group discussion, we’ll consider both passages as a unit.

### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Read the whole passage as a group (Mark 10:13-31)
- 2) Consider the CONTEXT of the passage: How has Mark developed Jesus’ identity—particularly His power, authority, and humility as God’s promised King?
  - a) Have someone in the group turn to the following texts and summarize, in one sentence, what occurs in each of the following texts:
    - \* Mark 8:27-30
    - \* Mark 9:2-13
    - \* Mark 8:31-38; Mark 9:30-32
  - b) In what sense does Mark reveal Jesus as “The Greatest among all people?”
  - c) In what sense does Mark reveal Jesus as One who is willing to make Himself “The least—or weakest—among all people?”
- 3) Mark 10:13-31 includes several CHARACTERS who approach The King.
  - a) Who are the main characters in Mark 10:13-31?
  - b) How are the themes of “greatness” or “least-ness / weakness” embodied by these various characters?
  - c) To whom does Christ throw open the doors to God’s Kingdom? (trick question... answer: EVERYONE!!!)
  - d) Who enters the Kingdom easily, and why? Who misunderstands or appears to reject His offer, and why?
- 4) Mark writes His Gospel as an evangelistic document, so that we who read it will enter the Kingdom.
  - a) What transformation of identity must we accept and undergo in order to enter the Kingdom of God?
  - b) How does Jesus confront our own tendency to elevate our accomplishments, ego, and self-righteousness as ways to earn access to Him?
  - c) What, if anything, is Jesus calling you to lay aside in order to humbly receive the gift of His free grace with a thankful heart?

Collect for the week:

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.