



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Magnify God: Jesus and the Children*

Text: Mark 10:13-16

Service Date: June 22, 2025

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- What were you like as a child (i.e. rule follower, mischievous, etc.)?
- What things excite you about the Children's Ministry at Tri-Village?
- Take a moment to read Mark 10:13-16. From either the passage or Sunday sermon, what reflections/thoughts come to mind?

Sermon Discussion

- Why do you think Jesus said that the "kingdom of God belongs to such as these"?
- "Children can serve as an inspiration to us because of their faith and trust." Adults may try to teach children, but sometimes, children have an interesting way of teaching adults. What are some ways that children often teach adults, either in faith or life?
- Read Mark 9:33-37. In the passage, Jesus notes that the first must be last and become a servant of all. It can be easy serving individuals we like. Do you ever find it difficult to serve someone to whom you didn't get along? What was your experience?
- In Mark 10, it says, "but the disciples rebuked them", after Jesus had just tried to teach them (as noted in Mark 9). Jesus then becomes "indignant". What does this say about the need for us to sometimes stop rationalizing everything in order to follow Him and instead follow Him like a child?
- Do you ever try to have faith when it only seems rationale? Does this then somewhat negate the idea of faith/trust in Him?

- Hebrews 11:1 says, “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” When is the last time you acted in faith? If you can’t recall, do you find that your life tends to be spiritually “boring”?
- Godly faith is about placing trust in the One who can lead us and not in ourselves or things of this world. Why is it so difficult for us to lead lives of faith and not base them on what we think should happen?
- You never have to tell a healthy child to grow- they just do. In the same way, our spiritual life grows when it is healthy. How healthy would you say you are spiritually right now? Can you see God using you to bear spiritual “fruit” or are you stagnant and not bearing “fruit”?
- “Children need an investment of faith in their lives to grow and mature spiritually.” Stats from the sermon:

>Approximately 72% of U.S. Christian Evangelicals come to faith before the age of 18.

>50% of U.S. Christian Evangelicals accept Christ by the age of 12.

>The most significant influence on a child’s faith is the parents, especially when both are active Christians.

>Church programming impacts children with the average age of children who accept Christ, raised in a children’s ministry program, being 10 years old.

>In U.S. Christianity, only 6% become Christians after the age of 21.

What do these statistics reveal about 1) the need for faith to be grounded in the home, and 2) the need of parents to invest the life of the local church?

- What is your prayer for the children in your life (your children, grandchildren, neighbors, etc.)? How can you specifically be investing in their spiritual lives this week?

Books mentioned in the sermon:

The Children’s God by David Heller
