



# Jesus and the children

Mark 10:13-16, Luke 18:15-17

## Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for loving little children. Thank You for loving (name your child). Thank You for showing Your love for us by giving us food, clothes, friends, and family. Thank You, Jesus, for showing Your love for us when You died on the cross for our sins. Help us to show Your love to other people every day. In Your name we pray, Amen.

## Family devotions

### SUNDAY

Psalm 139:13-16

### MONDAY

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

### TUESDAY

Matthew 18:1-6, 10

### WEDNESDAY

Mark 10:13-16

### THURSDAY

Luke 18:15-17

### FRIDAY

Proverbs 6:20-23

### SATURDAY

Luke 19:1-10

## Family activity

- \* Make cutout cookies together. Use heart-shaped and gingerbread boy cookie cutters to remind your child that Jesus loves them. Ask your child to give some of the cookies to a friend or relative. Make a card to give with the cookies that says "Jesus Loves You."
- \* Show extra love to your child today. Read a book with him, play a game, or go to the park together. Give an extra hug and say, "I love you!"
- \* Ask your child to help you draw a picture of things God does for us that show His love (gives us food, shelter, friends, and family; sent Jesus to die for us; forgives our sin). Hang your picture on the refrigerator.

## Did you know?

- \* Young boys in the days of Jesus learned the Torah at age five. Girls did not attend school but were taught by their parents at home.
- \* School was held in the synagogue every day of the week, including the Sabbath. It was held in the morning, with a break in the afternoon, and then resumed in the evening.
- \* Children had few toys to play with. They may have played with sticks, bones, or small toys made of terra cotta. They also had clay dolls clothed with rags.

## What's it all about?

We should take very seriously Jesus' commands concerning our children. Jesus says, "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:14). He also says that "whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matthew 18:6).

As a parent of one of these little ones, bring your child to Jesus. Be sure he has been brought to the Lord in baptism. Make sure he is in church and Sunday school. Read Bible stories with him nightly. Say simple prayers together every day. Answer difficult questions about God the best you can. Don't hinder your child from learning about God at this most impressionable age.

## Songs to sing

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"  
"Praise Him, Praise Him, All You Little Children"  
"Jesus Loves Even Me"

## Memory verse

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." *Luke 19:10*