

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

## LUKE CHAPTER 18:15-17

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### HOW DO WE GET FROM HERE TO HEAVEN? – PART 1

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,  
THE SON OF GOD, SON OF MAN, SAVIOR OF ALL MANKIND*

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SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Heaven, Childlikeness, Humility, Faith**

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**The Four Gospels are Four Reporters / Eyewitness  
Accounts of the Same Events or Certain Events...**

#### **Matthew 19:13-15**

Then little children were brought to Him that He might **put His hands on them and pray**, but the disciples rebuked them. :14 But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; **for of such** is the kingdom of heaven." :15 And He **laid His hands on them** and departed from there.

#### **Mark 10:13-16**

Then they brought little children to Him, **that He might touch them**; but the disciples rebuked those who brought *them*. :14 But when Jesus saw *it*, He was **greatly displeased** and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and **do not forbid them**; for of such is the kingdom of God. :15 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God **as a little child** will by no means enter it." :16 And **He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.**

#### **Luke 18:15-17**

Then they (*moms and dads*) brought infants to Him **that He might touch them**; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them (*the parents*). :16 But Jesus called them (*the disciples*) to Him and said, "**Let** the little children come to Me, and **do not forbid them**; for **of such** is the kingdom of God. :17 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God **as a little child** will by no means enter it."

**This was Radical and Revolutionary.**

Men had “Polished” Religion to Perfection  
But God’s Heart is all Together Different About it All

**Jesus Warned Against “Destroying” Faith**

**Matthew 7:15**

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. (Soul seekers)

**Peter Warned Against “Destroying” Faith**

**2 Peter 2:1**

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, (well hidden)

**Again Jesus Warned Against “Destroying” Faith**

**Matthew 18:6**

“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

**HOW DO WE GET FROM HERE TO HEAVEN?**

It’s answered by Jesus by 2 faith encounters.

From verses 15 to 30

These “Teaching Moments” are Broken Up Into 2 Parts

(verses 15-17 - when #1 growing up is such a big deal in life;)  
(and verses 18-30 - #2 establishing one’s self in this world;)

**Lesson 1**

**Luke 18:15-17**

Then they also brought infants to Him that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. :16 But Jesus called them to Him and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. :17 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”

# HOW DO WE GET FROM HERE TO HEAVEN?

**1.) We need to make an Immediate U-Turn**

**v.15**

**1a.) About what we think is important**

**v.15a**

Then they (parents) also brought **infants** to Him

## Picture The Scene

It's One of Congestion, At Best It's an Organized Chaos.

And all around Jesus, there are those wanting to **argue** with Him. there are those wanting to **debate** Him, there are those with **needs**, there are those who desire to **catch a glimpse...**

the crowd, it's the same but now **the most invisible** becomes **the most famous**. against an absolute black contrast of the Pharisees ambition, self-confidence and independence, shines the humble, gentle, simplicity of a child.

**it was a Jewish tradition that a rabbi should bless a child.**  
**this usually happened at or around the age of 12 months.**

### Deuteronomy 4:9

Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

### Why Is This Important?

- (1-) because every pagan culture or false religion sacrifices their children in one way or another.
- (2+) children are the most perfect, earthly representation of what the Lord delights in.
- (3) what we learn from our children is all important.

### **the significance of all this was powerful.**

the child was being "given back" to the Lord. the parents were acknowledging that the child was created by God, sustained by God and shall one day return to God –  
in a few words, **the child was on loan to the parents.**

we need to take some advice from our children  
before they grow up and get messed up.

### Psalm 8:2

From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise

# WE NEED TO MAKE AN IMMEDIATE U-TURN

## 1b.) About being an untouchable

v.15b

### Luke 18:15

Then they (*parents*) also brought **infants** to Him **that He might touch them;**  
but when the disciples saw it, they **rebuked** them (*the parents*)

### “that He might **touch them**”

In Israel then as today, a touch was/is wasted on no one.  
a touch adds to the power of the words,  
it's a warm expression, an act of affectionate, caring.

### Why does Jesus hold children in such high regard?

children are **believing** / children are **trusting** / children are **willing**  
children are **obedient** / children are **forgiving** / children are **sensitive**

the younger a child is, the more like a Christian they are.

I want to argue here that “Religion Doesn't Allow You to Touch”  
but a personal relationship with Christ does.

did you know that human DNA demands that a human being be touched, felt, caressed?  
and that when touch happens it releases a flood of neurological agents of information to the body and  
mind of that child?

a child untouched and neglected  
will not develop mentally or be emotionally stable.

### “That He might **touch them**”

this reveals the heart and nature of our God.

## Jesus Christ Conducted a “Hands on Ministry?”

hands on the sick, hands on the poor, hands on the possessed, hands on the dead?

### “That He might **touch you**”

every human being that is still somewhat normal desires God to touch them.  
to touch them with.... hope, peace, love, protection, desire...

## Post Resurrection Event

John 20:25

The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." :26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" :27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." :28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Thomas, In an Instant Became a Child of Faith  
at birth, absolute total dependance

and to this Jesus says

Matthew 18:3

"Assuredly, I say to you, **unless** you are (1) **converted** and (2) **become as little children**, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

You've Been Growing Up – *that's your problem!!!*  
A Most "Insulting" and "Offensive" Passage of Scripture

John 3:1-7

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. :2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." :3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." :4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" :5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. :6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. :7 Do not marvel that I said to you, "You must be born again."

## HOW DO WE GET FROM HERE TO HEAVEN?

**2.) We need to have a New Approach**

**v.16**

But Jesus called **them** (the fathers) to Him and said, "**Let** the little children come to Me, and **do not forbid** them; for **of such** is the kingdom of God.

## 2a.) In the way we come to God

v.16a

But Jesus called them (*the disciples*) to Him and said,  
“**Let** the little children come to Me,

this “**them**” here in the Greek is masculine, them being the fathers of the children brought the kids to Jesus. – *how terrible far we have fallen away from God in our day.*

“**Let** the little children come to Me,  
in the Jewish culture, the father was responsible for teaching the children the heart and mind of YHWH from the scriptures.

Today, The Church Must Not Be An Obstacle  
in bringing the word of God to the children.  
*((we need your help to get the next phase of the church completed))*

## 2b.) In the way we look at others

v.16b

...and **do not forbid** them;  
**forbid** to hold back, resist, to discourage, or to distract.

- (1) what have you **told your children about God?**
- (2) what have you **said about His Son Jesus Christ?**
- (3) what have you **done to give your child the opportunity to discover God?**

## 2c.) In the way we view heaven

v.16c

for **of such** is the kingdom of God.

### Matthew 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. :22 Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ :23 And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’ :24 “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

# The New Nature of a Real Christian is Child-Like

## HOW DO WE GET FROM HERE TO HEAVEN ?

### 3.) We need to make a Change of Course v.17

Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God **as a little child** will by no means enter into it.”

“will by no means”

### 3a.) Because we've become the maker v.17a

Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God **as a little child** will by no means enter into it.”

- (1) whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God
- (2) **as a little child**

**One:**

you can only **receive** it – *ya can't go and get it*

**Two:**

you can't have it **as you are** – *something has to happen*

## WE NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE OF COURSE

### 3b.) Because we've become the authority v.17b

...whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God **as a little child** will by no means enter into it.”

“Beware of the “Experts” of Hidden Things”  
the theologians, the scholars, the biblical authorities

#### 1 Corinthians 8:1

...We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies.

### Acts 26:24

Now as Paul thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!"

### Philippians 3:2-9

Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation! :3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, :4 though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: :5 circumcised the eighth day of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; :6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. :7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. :8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ :9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

## WE NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE OF COURSE

### 3c.) Because we've become the grown up v.17c

Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God **as a little child** will by no means enter into it."

**"will by no means"**

### Matthew 18:1-4

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" :2 Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, :3 and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, **unless** you are **converted** and become **as little children**, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. :4 Therefore whoever **humbles himself** as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

He wants to Touch, Bless, Pray for You – Smiling



**Colossians 2:9**

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;  
**The “Humanity” of God Amazes Me**

**Philippians 2:7-8**

for He made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of man. :8 And being found in the appearance as a man, He humbled Himself **The “Humanity” of God Amazes Me**

**1 John 1:1-2**

That which was from the beginning, which we have **heard**, which we have **seen** with our eyes, which we have **looked upon**, and our hands have **handled**, concerning the Word of life - :2 the life was **manifested**, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you **that eternal life** which was with the Father and was manifested to us...  
**The “Humanity” of God Amazes Me**

**1 Timothy 3:16**

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory. **The “Humanity” of God Amazes Me**

**Why? to think that God the Lord, Creator**

of all things is now able to literally physically pick up and hold a baby human being.

**what must have been in His mind?**

“I designed these ears. I made this nose. I placed this personality inside this lil guy...”

that God would long to hold a human baby.  
that God would desire to sit with you and talk with you

*End of Study*