



COMMUNITY GUIDE

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WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: We don't have to hide behind the allusion of perfection.

HEAD CHANGE: We tell children to behave like adults, but Jesus tells the adults to model themselves after the children.

HEART CHANGE: We can trust God as a preschool child trusts her/his parents.

LIFE CHANGE: Come to Jesus like a little child. ▾

OVERVIEW

How Jesus Relates to You

Many of us constantly battle with trying to live up to the expectations of others or trying to live up to our own unrealistic expectations. For others, we find ourselves wrestling with the lie of the expectations we think God has for us. If you battle with the pursuit of perfectionism, you may even find yourself "almost" lying in order to show an image of yourself that is not real. Or maybe you avoid something that you would like to do because you're afraid you won't hit the standard, so you will avoid it altogether. Or you obsess over something to get it just right without realizing that perfectionism will hinder progress while telling yourself, "This is the price I pay to be successful." So how do we avoid the burden of perfection? Jesus tells us; "become like little children." ▾

"One day some parents brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But when the disciples saw this, they scolded the parents for bothering hm. Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children." ▾

-Luke 18:15-16 (NLT)-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you in this teaching? Why do you think that resonated?
2. Of the three points listed (sense of wonder, a trust in the Father, & freedom to forgive), which is easiest and which is the most challenging for you?
3. How does reframing the story of Peter walking on the water change the way you think about Christ's relationship with you?
4. How can we focus on Christ and the work He's doing in our lives rather than on our desire to make ourselves better on our own?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Father, thank you for sending Your Son to live the perfect life we never could. Thank you for the sacrifice He made, once and for all, to make us right with You. Help us to extend the love and grace You've given us to the people in our lives this week and to remind us that we are your children too. In Jesus' name, Amen

IN THIS TOGETHER!