

Habit # 7-Childlikeness

“And He said, ‘I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.’” Matthew 18:3 (NIV)

WHY WOULD THE DISCIPLES ASK THE QUESTION THAT THEY DID?

One Word- Pride

WHAT DID JESUS SEE IN CHILDREN?

1. Children know how to live

Children know they are loved. When you know you are loved, you can live

1 Peter 4:8: “Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.” John 15:12: “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” 1 Corinthians 13:13: “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

Children know they are loved because they know mom and dad forgive them...
As we are in Christ

“As far as the East is from the West so far he has removed our sins from us.” Psalm 103: 12

*“I even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.”
Is. 42:25*

2. Children know how to be joyful

*“A cheerful (laughing) heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.”
Prov. 17:22*

“There is a time to weep and a time to laugh” Ecclesiastes 3:4a

3. Children have confidence in their future.

*“Do not worry saying, ‘What shall we eat? Or What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added until you. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”
Matt. 6:31-34*

4. Children trust in ways “big” people don’t.

“TRUST in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.” Prov. 3:5-6

Conclusion

The gospel makes people fully alive and can make us like a little child. The gospel makes us accept ourselves in Christ, can make us spontaneously joyful, make us not fear the future, and make us trust God through faith. Be fully alive! Let Jesus have his way with you.