January19, 2020 - Rev. Rick Lyon

<u>Intro</u>

<u>Luke 16:15</u> - The things that most people value highly are worthless in God's sight.

<u>**1** Cor. 1:28</u> - God has chosen what the world looks down on and despises and thinks is nothing.

<u>Matthew 18:5-6</u> - "Whoever receives <u>one little child</u> like this in My name receives <u>Me</u>. But whoever causes <u>one</u> 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 depths of the sea."

<u>Matthew 19:13</u> - Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them (they scolded them). But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and don't forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." And He laid His hands on them and departed from there.

1. Bring little children to Jesus.

v.13 - Then little children were *brought* to Him.

<u>**Proverbs 22:6</u>** - Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he won't depart from it.</u>

Psalm 127:4 - Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth.

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In a recent survey, people were asked when they trusted Christ as their Savior.



- 1% said between the ages of 0-3
- 63% said between the ages of 4-14
- 34% said between the ages of 15-29
- 2% said over 30

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2. Seek Jesus' blessing on children.

 $\underline{v.13}$ - Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray.

<u>2 Timothy 3:14-15</u> - Continue in the things you've learned and firmly believed, since you know from whom you've learned them. From <u>*childhood*</u> you've known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

3. Don't hinder children.

 $\underline{v.14}$ - The disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and don't forbid them (or hinder them)."

<u>Psalm 78:4-8</u> - We won't hide these truths from our children; <u>we will tell the next</u> <u>generation</u> about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about His power and His mighty wonders. For He issued His laws to Jacob; He gave His instructions to Israel. He commanded our ancestors to <u>teach them to their children</u>, so the next generation might know them— even the children not yet born— and they in turn will <u>teach</u> <u>their own children</u>. So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting His works and obeying His commands. Then they won't be like their ancestors— stubborn, rebellious, and unfaithful, refusing to give their hearts to God.

Deuteronomy 6:5-8 - Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength. These words I'm commanding you today are to be

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on your hearts. Teach them diligently to your children, and talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise.

4. Recognize how valuable each child is to Jesus.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and don't forbid them; for <u>of such is</u> <u>the kingdom of heaven</u>." And He laid His hands on them (to bless them) and departed from there.

How everyone should be involved in Children's Ministry

1. Invite

2. Welcome

3. Encourage

4. Give

5. Volunteer

6. Pray