

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

GOD HAS MADE A GREAT MANY PROMISES. THEY ARE ALL "YES" BECAUSE OF WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE. SO THROUGH CHRIST WE SAY "AMEN." WE WANT GOD TO RECEIVE GLORY. – 2 CORINTHIANS 1:20

PROMISE OF BELONGING

JESUS SAID, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME. DON'T KEEP THEM AWAY. THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO PEOPLE LIKE THEM."

POINT TO SELF

WAVE TOWARD SELF

SHAKE HEAD "NO"

POINT UP

SPREAD ARMS TO GROUP

STORY: JESUS WELCOMES THE CHILDREN—MATT 10:13–16

DISCUSS:

READ THE BIBLE STORY FROM MATTHEW OR FROM YOUR FAVORITE STORY BIBLE. HAVE YOUR KIDS RETELL THE STORY IN THEIR OWN WORDS & ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TOGETHER.

1. Why do you think the disciples tried to keep the children away from Jesus?
2. How do you think the children felt when Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me"?
3. What are some ways you can stay close to Jesus every day?
4. If Jesus were sitting in our living room right now, what would you want to tell Him?
5. How can we remind each other in our family that Jesus always wants us near Him?

BIG IDEA: JESUS WANTS YOU NEAR HIM!

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible talks a lot about belonging! In Ephesians 2:19, Paul says that when we trust in & follow Jesus, we are no longer strangers or outsiders—we become part of God's household. That means we're not just "visitors" in God's family—we really belong there, like sons and daughters. This promise of belonging reminds us that with Jesus, we always have a home and a place where we are fully loved and accepted.

SOMETHING TO NOTE:

In Bible times, children weren't usually seen as very important. Grown-ups often thought kids should stay quiet and out of the way. But in Mark 10:13–16, Jesus flipped that idea upside down! He welcomed children, hugged them, and even used them as an example of the kind of faith we all need. This was surprising and powerful—Jesus showed everyone that kids matter deeply in God's Kingdom! Jesus didn't just say nice words—He actually took time to pick them up and hug them! The Bible says He "took the children in His arms, placed His hands on them, and blessed them" (Mark 10:16). That means Jesus wanted kids to know they were safe, loved, and close to Him—just like He wants for you today!

PRAYER PROMPT:

Close your eyes and picture yourself sitting on Jesus' lap, just like the children in the story. Imagine how safe and loved you would feel. Thank Jesus for being the God of belonging, who always wants you near Him and makes you part of His family.

As a family, pray together and thank Jesus that no matter who you are or how young you are, you always have a place with Him."

PROMISES