

**The Kingdom of God**  
**Lesson 20: “Kids” of the Kingdom**  
**LifeWalk Leader Guide**

**Open/Icebreakers:** List positive qualities/traits children possess. What are some of your favorite memories when you look back on your childhood? What did you like to do? How were you treated as a child? How did that shape the person you are today? How do little children view the world?

**Digging In:** Luke 18:15-17

1. In this text, people were bringing babies to Jesus. They wanted Him to offer a priestly blessing. It seems these parents recognized that Jesus had a blessing to offer. Why do you think parents would seek out Jesus for this blessing?
2. Why did the disciples rebuke these parents? Why would they want to stop parents from bringing their infants to Jesus for a blessing? Do you think they thought that the children were a distraction? Perhaps they felt they were a bother and they were getting in the way of more important matters of ministry. What do you think?
3. In this cultural context, children had no social status. Why do you think Jesus related so well with little children? (See Luke 9:46-48, “welcoming” a little child would have meant “to bestow honor” or treat as a social equal)
4. Why does Jesus rebuke the disciples? What lesson(s) is He seeking to teach them?
5. What did Jesus mean when He said, “of such is the kingdom of God?” What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a little child? What hinders us from receiving the kingdom this way?
6. If you are a parent, how do little children receive you? What do they look to you for?

**Reflection:**

1. How do we (kingdom citizens) act in such a way that we reflect the innocence of children? Why is it so difficult to walk this way in our faith? Why is it so hard (particularly in our American culture) to live in a state of dependence? What does that life of faith look like? Should we just let people walk all over us? Will we just be doormats for everyone else to walk on? Describe what this walk of faith looks like in practical terms.
2. As we read the end of this text, what is at stake? Why would Jesus place such importance on this teaching?
3. How can your group carry out this radical call? What is He calling you to do?

**Prayer:** God, help us receive the Kingdom like little children. Forgive us when we trust more in ourselves than You. Teach us each day what it means to serve in

Your kingdom. May your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Holy Spirit,  
move my heart to love and service.