



Jesus Loves the Children

Grade/Category: K-2, GO Share Jesus

Title: Jesus Loves the Children

Objective: Students will know that that Jesus thinks that children are very important.

Bible Verse: Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them. Matthew 19:14 NIV

Supplies:

1. Narrative included here.

Procedures:

1. Start with a Song:

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus loves the little children,

All the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white,

All are precious in His sight,

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

2. Question: Can you be too little to drive a car? To be a Mom or Dad? To be a fireman?

Can you be too little to build a house? To be a school teacher?

Can you be too little to come to Jesus?

3. Choose students to be Jesus' friends, Jesus, and the parents. As you read the narrative, taken from Mark 10:13-16, allow the students to repeat the dialogue for their character. Include as much acting out as seems fitting for your group.

All through the Bible we hear that the people liked to hear Jesus tell stories. Jesus would say, "There were some sheep." "A farmer bought a field." "A man planted some seeds."

The friends would listen and respond with questions: "What is heaven like?" "How can we be good?"

One day many people gathered around Jesus when some parents brought their children up to see him. The parents asked Jesus, "Please put your hands on the children and bless them." "Jesus, please pray for the children."

Jesus' friends saw the parents and said, "Jesus is too busy!" "He doesn't have time to talk to children." "You must go away."

Jesus was not happy with his friends. He said, "Let the little children come to me." "Do not forbid them." "God's kingdom is for everyone who comes like a child comes."

Jesus hugged and prayed for the children. The children and their parents smiled and were happy. Jesus loved the children and he loved them.



Jesus Loves the Children

4. Place a hand on each child's head and pray a blessing over them. "It must have felt very good to the children to get a blessing and a hug from Jesus. Jesus thought the children were important and they were not too little to come to him."

5. Rhyme to share: (Include motions, optional)

"God is so big. We know this is true.

But He's not too big, to love children like you."

6. Activity:

Have an adult on one side of the space proclaim, "Let the little children come!"

Children on the other side of the space race over to the adult and return the shout, "Do not forbid them."

Vocabulary: blessing, forbid, hinder, kingdom

Extensions:

1. Craft – make bead bracelets that include letters to spell, "Jesus Loves Me."
2. Cut out and decorate a paper heart and write on it, "Jesus loves _____" including the child's name.

Further Resources:

Steve Green, *Let the Little Children Come*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lMy7rabpY6g&list=RDlMy7rabpY6g>

Complete text of *Jesus Loves the Little Children*:

<http://cyberhymnal.org/htm/j/e/jesloves.htm>