

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Luke

Lesson 28

Be Like Little Children

Luke 9:46-48;
10:21-24

Life of Christ

Be Like Little Children

Luke 9:46-48; 10:21-24

Younger Verse

"The least important person among all of you is the most important." Luke 9:48b

Older Verse

"The least important person among all of you is the most important." Luke 9:48b

Bible Story



*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Jesus had been talking about God's kingdom. The disciples knew that Jesus was God's Son. Some of them had seen Jesus on the mountain when Elijah and Moses appeared with Him. They saw Jesus' face look dazzling white and they heard God's voice saying, "This is My Son, My chosen one. Listen to Him."

So the disciples started wondering about what things would be like in God's kingdom. They wanted to know what their places would be. They started arguing about who would get the best places next to Jesus. They all wanted to be the most important one.

Jesus knew what they were thinking, and He began to teach them. He brought a little child beside Him, and said, "Anyone who welcomes this little child in My name welcomes Me. And anyone who welcomes Me welcomes the One who sent Me. The least important person among all of you is the most important." (Luke 9:48 NIrV)

Do you ever feel like you are not very important because you are too small or too young? Jesus wanted everyone to know that size or age does not matter. Everyone is important to God. What matters is how we treat other people. Jesus told His disciples that we should treat people the way we would treat Him. We should think of others and their needs before we think about ourselves.

On another day when Jesus was speaking to the disciples, He said a prayer. He

Lesson Goals

Learn what Jesus taught about who is important

Learn that all people are important to God

See that God's message is simple so all can understand

thanked God that He had hidden the truth from the wise and smart, but had revealed it to the childlike. Jesus meant that God's message of love and forgiveness is simple. You do not have to be smart to understand it. Sometimes people try to make God's message hard to understand. They make it complicated, but they are missing the truth that God's love is for everyone!

So who are the childlike? Jesus meant that we need to have the faith of a child who trusts his parents. He listens to them and does what they say, because he knows that they love him. We must have that childlike trust in God, our Heavenly Father. What should we have faith in? God's message of salvation.

What is God's message of salvation? It is John 3:16. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life." It is Romans 10:9. "If you say with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." That's it. No more and no less. Do you believe it?

Isn't it good to know that everyone is important to God? He doesn't rank us based on our achievement or intelligence. Those who accept Jesus as their Savior are all in His family. Simple as that.

Review Questions

1. What were the disciples arguing about? (Who would be the most important in God's kingdom.)
2. Jesus said that the least important person is what? (the most important)
3. Jesus said that God had hidden His message from whom? (the wise and smart)
4. Who can understand God's message? (the childlike—those who have faith in Him and trust Him)

Life Application

Help kids understand that we don't have to make ourselves feel important, because we can know that we are special to God. Find passages in the Bible that talk about how much God cares for us. Read Psalms 139. It talks about how God formed us, made us, and knows everything about us. He even thinks about us all the time!

When we know that we all have a place in God's family, it helps us feel good about ourselves AND others. We don't have to compare or compete. We can just be who God made us to be.

Planning for Lesson 29
The Good Samaritan
Luke 10:25-37

Preschool Lesson for Be Like Little Children

Jesus had been talking about God's kingdom. The disciples knew that Jesus was God's Son. Some of them had seen Jesus on the mountain when Elijah and Moses appeared with Him. They saw Jesus' face look dazzling white and they heard God's voice saying, "This is My Son, My chosen one. Listen to Him."

So the disciples started wondering about what things would be like in Heaven. They wanted to know what their places would be. They started arguing about who would get the best places next to Jesus. They all wanted to be the most important one.

Jesus knew what they were thinking, and He began to teach them. He brought a little child beside Him, and said, "Anyone who welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me. And anyone who welcomes me welcomes the One who sent me. The least important person among all of you is the most important." (Luke 9:48 NIrV)

Do you ever feel like you are not very important because you are too small or too young? Jesus wanted everyone to know that size or age does not matter. Everyone is important to God. What matters is how we treat other people. Jesus told His disciples that we should treat people the way we would treat Him. We should think of others and their needs before we think about ourselves.

On another day when Jesus was speaking to the disciples, He said a prayer. He thanked God that He had hidden the truth from the wise and smart, but had revealed it to the childlike. Jesus meant that God's message of love and forgiveness is simple. You do not have to be smart to understand it.

Jesus said that we need to have the faith of a child who trusts his parents. He listens to them and does what they say, because he knows that they love him. We must have that childlike trust in God, our Heavenly Father.

Isn't it good to know that everyone is important to God? Those who accept Jesus as their Savior are all in His family. Simple as that.



**Hands-on Activities
for
Be Like Little Children**

Bring 1st place ribbons. When students let someone else go first or they share something, give them a ribbon. Explain that when we let someone else go first, we are first place in God's eyes!

Make an "I can be a servant" list and come up with ways they can help others. Try to come up with at least seven ideas so that they can have one for each day of the week.

Let the kids make their own stickers. Bring computer labels and decorate with markers. Say things that are encouraging. Ask each person to give some of their stickers to someone else!

Play a fun relay game. After the game is over, announce the winner—the last team that finished. When the other team complains, explain the lesson again and share what it means to help others first before helping yourselves.

**“The least important
person among all of
you is the most
important.”
Luke 9:48b**



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Word Search

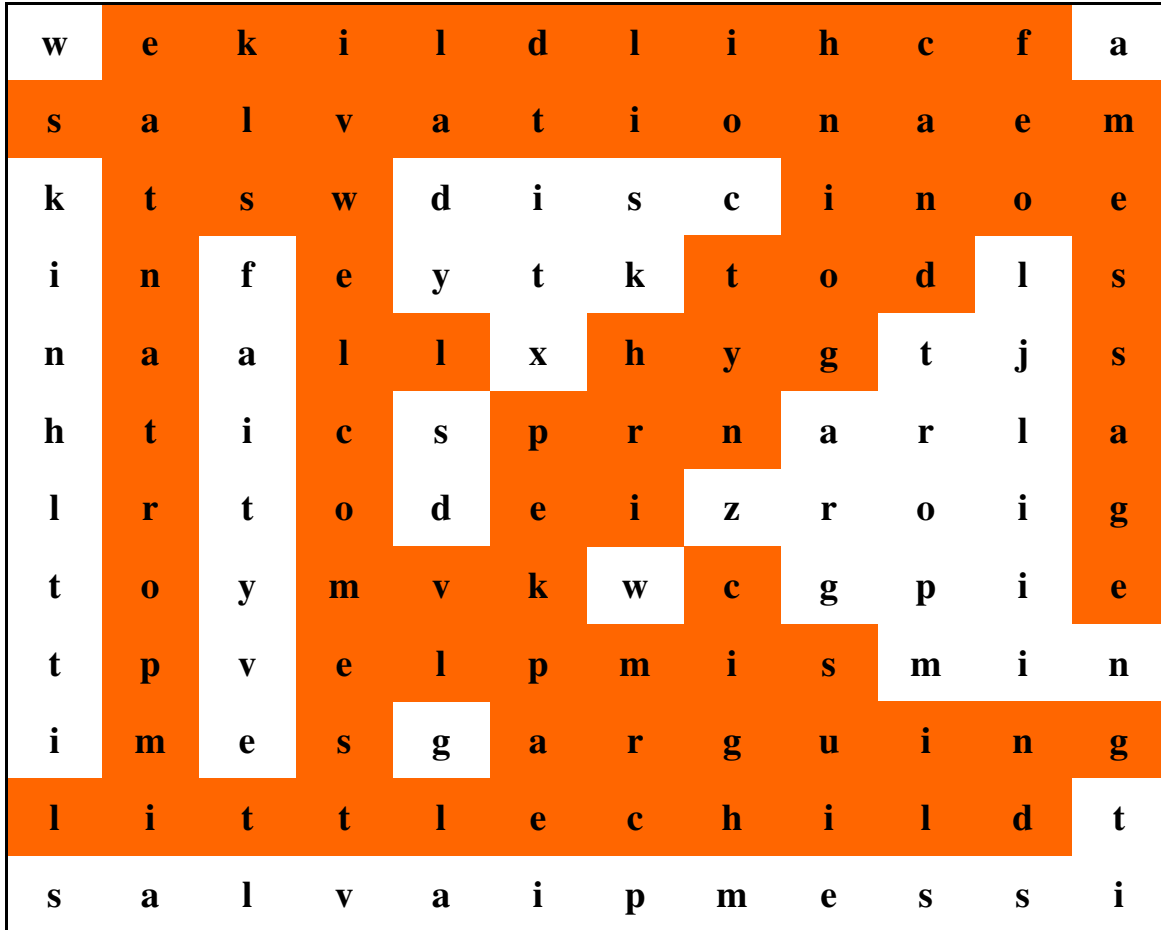
Be Like Little Children

w	e	k	i	l	d	l	i	h	c	f	a
s	a	l	v	a	t	i	o	n	a	e	m
k	t	s	w	d	i	s	c	i	n	o	e
i	n	f	e	y	t	k	t	o	d	l	s
n	a	a	l	l	x	h	y	g	t	j	s
h	t	i	c	s	p	r	n	a	r	l	a
l	r	t	o	d	e	i	z	r	o	i	g
t	o	y	m	v	k	w	c	g	p	i	e
t	p	v	e	l	p	m	i	s	m	i	n
i	m	e	s	g	a	r	g	u	i	n	g
l	i	t	t	l	e	c	h	i	l	d	t
s	a	l	v	a	i	p	m	e	s	s	i

disciples	important	kingdom
arguing	little child	welcomes
childlike	faith	everyone
simple	message	salvation

Word Search

Be Like Little Children



disciples	important	kingdom
arguing	little child	welcomes
childlike	faith	everyone
simple	message	salvation

The disciples wanted to know who
was the most
i _ _ p _ _ rt _ _ nt.

Jesus said the least important
person is the
(Write the next letter in the alphabet.)

_ _ _ _ important.
l n r s

Who can understand God's
Message? The

CHILDLIKE

