

## Sunday Teacher's Lesson for

# LIFE OF CHRIST

## Jesus Loves the Children

## Mark 10:13-16

### Younger Verse

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. Psalm 42:2

### Older Verse

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?  
Psalm 42:2

### Introduction

Everyone loves being excited about something. Sometimes we are so excited that we jump up and down or even run to whatever it may be. In today's lesson we will see some children that are pretty excited. Let's find out why.

### 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.*

Last week we learned about what Jesus considered great. It is more pleasing to God to think of other people before ourselves. Jesus taught the disciples and us the importance of what it means to be a servant.

After Jesus taught about being a servant He continued teaching His disciples about other things. Then Jesus took His disciples down to the area of Judea and across the Jordan River. Once in this area Jesus had the chance to teach some more people and the disciples another lesson. The disciples did not understand what Jesus was teaching so when they were alone in a house they asked Him to explain.

People soon found out Jesus was in town. This got the people really excited. What do you think they did? Some of the adults went home and got their children. They wanted to give their children a chance to see Jesus and let Him touch them!

"Look! There He is! Hurry! Go to Him." The children hurried over so that they could be the first ones to let Jesus touch them. Jesus saw them coming and was very excited to get to see them. Before they could get to Jesus the disciples stopped them.

"Turn away, Jesus does not want to see you."

How do you think that made the children feel? Ohh yes, they were probably very sad. What do you think Jesus did when He saw what happened? Jesus became upset. The disciples did not understand how important the children were to Jesus. They thought He did not have any time

### Lesson Goals

To know Jesus loves them.  
To know Jesus wants to spend time with them.

for them.

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them!" Then Jesus told His disciples that it was important to believe and trust in Him the way a child would. He took the children in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them.

We see in this story how much Jesus loved those children that came to see Him. Jesus loves all people, especially children. Jesus wanted His disciples to understand that children can spend time with Him too. Sometimes people think church or God is only for certain people. But here we see Jesus wanting the disciples and us to understand that He loves children too.

God has given us ways to spend time with Jesus even today. We can read about Him in the Bible, we can talk with Him through prayer, and we can learn about Him in Bible Study. Whenever we do those things we don't get to see Him with our eyes. But Jesus did something else to make that possible.

Jesus knew that all people mess up. He knew that people would do bad things, we call sin. He also knew that our sins keep us from getting to be with Him and see Him in Heaven. Jesus wanted us to have a way to be with Him. Jesus took the punishment for us and died on the cross for the sins. Then three days later He came back to life so that we could have our sins taken away.

If you would like to let Jesus take away your sins and let Him be part of your life, please talk with me before you leave.

#### Learning Activities

Choose activities that will help the children to see how much Jesus loves for them to spend time with Him.

#### Memory Verse Activities

Bring cups and let the children tape or glue the verse onto the cup so that they can take it home.

#### Prayer Time

Ask the children if they have anything to pray about. Pray for those things and pray that children will have an excitement about wanting to see and spend time with Jesus.

#### Snack Time/CleanUp

Encourage the children to help you clean up. Don't do it all yourself. They can be servants too! Let them help you pass out snacks and remind them that if they have any questions, they can ask you any time they want.

Planning for Lesson 35  
The Rich Young Man  
Mark 10:17-31

# Preschool Lesson For Jesus Loves the Little Children

It is so good to see all of you here. Today our story is about little children just like you! Let's see what happened.

It was a normal day for the children in the village. They would be at home spending time with their family and friends. The children had been playing together when their mother came rushing into the house.

"Hurry children, hurry! Jesus is here!" Mother said.

The children jumped to their feet when they heard this. They had heard other people talk about Jesus. He sounded like a very special and important person.

"I want Jesus to touch you and bless you. He has done many amazing things for the other children that have been sick." She said.

They rushed out the door. They saw many other children with their mothers rushing in the same direction. As they turned the corner they saw Him. Many people were all around Him. They started to make their way up to Jesus.

Suddenly some of the men around Jesus started to turn people away. "Go away, Jesus is too busy to see the children. Go Away!" They said.

Jesus looked at those men and said, "Let the little children come to me and DO NOT stop them!" Then as if a door had been opened all the children made their way up to Jesus. He wrapped His arms around them and prayed for them. It was a very exciting day for the children. They were able to see how much Jesus loved them. They got to see that Jesus wanted to spend time with them.

Jesus loves you boys and girls too. He loved everyone so much that He died and came back to life so that you could spend forever with Him. He really wants to be able to spend time with us. One way to spend time with Him is to talk to Him. Another is reading the Bible. And another way we are doing right now, going to Bible Study. Let's sing about our story:

**Sing, "Jesus loves the little children."**

**(Another fun song is to the tune of "Are you sleeping?")**

**Jesus sat upon a hill  
with His friends, with His friends.  
All the little children  
wanted to see Jesus  
So they ran, so they ran.**

**"Stop the children, stop the children."  
said the men, said the men.  
Jesus said, "I love them,  
and I want to bless them.  
Let them come. Let them come."**

Hands-On Activities  
For  
Jesus Loves the Little Children

Play a form of Red Light, Green Light to help the kids understand the story. Bring a green piece of paper (for the green light) and a red piece of paper (for the red light). Explain to the kids that they will tiptoe forward when they see the green sheet and tiptoe backwards when they see the red sheet. Share that the children were going to Jesus (hold up a green light) when Jesus' friends told them to go away (red light). Jesus saw this and asked them to come (green light). Play several times or take turns in letting kids hold up the sheets of paper.

Make Jesus and children standup figures or paper dolls. Act out the story using the figures.

For the kids that like to work with their hands, let them design play dough figures and show them to the others.

Pencil activities are also available for children who enjoy them. Remember, not all children are alike. Some learn by listening, others by acting out a story, by touching/feeling, or reading it in the Bible. Be thinking about how you can help every child learn the story and see how much Jesus loves them.

Have each child write their name on an envelope. While the kids are doing different learning activities, tell them that you are doing something special for them. Put a card in each child's envelope with a word of blessing. Examples may be: You're terrific; I like your smile; You are so friendly; You have pretty eyes; I like your drawing; You're beautiful to Jesus; You're a fun person, etc. The kids can open it later at home. You may want to put a Bible verse on the cards too.