

Kingdom Series

Entering the Kingdom as Children

1. Where is the Kingdom of God? – Luke 17:20-21

- Before the fall of man, man was to rule/have dominion in the earth. Earth to be an extension of heaven. E.g., “Thy kingdom come thy will be done...”
- Not detected by visible signs (invisible to the natural eye)
- A spiritual realm/reality: bring the atmosphere of heaven to earth:
- Kingdom within you: in our midst among us, surrounding us
- The reality of the Kingdom appears when Jesus lives in you by faith

2. How do I enter the Kingdom of God? – John 3: 1-7

- Spiritually dead and without hope, strangers to the promises of God
- You must be born again (salvation), shifted to a new system, a realm/reality
- You cannot see (know, be acquainted with, and experience) the Kingdom
- Liberated and moved from one kingdom to another (**Col 1:13**)
- Spiritually dead and without hope, strangers to the promises of God
- We are now Kingdom citizens: Seek first the Kingdom of God (His way of being and doing right) No longer under the control and dominion of the devil.

3. What is the right behavior and attitude as I shift into the Kingdom of God? Mark 10:13-16

- As children exhibit sincerity, eagerness and trusting attitude and total dependence on Him.
- We should also never lose our need to be fully dependent and on Him.
- Children in Jesus time had no power/status/rights
- Regarded as insignificant/disposable – considered legal property
- Children the most vulnerable and marginalized

3a. Disciples assumed Jesus was too important and too busy for children

- All people no matter their status or position are important
- The Kingdom consists of those who respond to Him with the trust that a little child gives a parent.

5 Ways to enter the Kingdom as a child: Matt 9: 14 "...for the kingdom belongs to those who are like these children" NLT

1. **Joyfully** – joyful because of what they focus on, not distracted by the cares of the world

- Jesus is the main attraction. Do you find Him more valuable than anything else?
- Our joy level is equal to the value we place on God's presence. **Psalm 16:11**

2. **Expectantly** – children came boldly because they knew His heart

- God is our Father – "Abba Father" intimate term/personal intimacy
- God rewards those diligently seek Him – (Face vs Hand) – **Luke 10:17**
- Expectancy manifest in the form of persistence
- Do you expect to receive from God?

3. **Trustily** – assumes God's nature is good and depends on Him for all our needs

- As our knowledge grows about Him – so can our trust – **Psalm 31:19**
- Trust leads to boldness

4. **Innocently** – Pure intentions – **Matt 5:8**

- Children not perfect but they have a level of innocence, not tainted by the ways of the world
- Sincerity/Genuine
- Not perfect and without fault but, solely desire God above anything else in the world.

5. **Humbly** – **1Peter 5:6, James 4:10**

- Children instinctively humble
- Submissive they defer to authority
- Affectionate, eager to please