

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

July 25, 2011

Bring Them To The King!

MATTHEW 19:14-15 NKJV – (14) But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (15) And He laid *His* hands on them and departed from there.

How do we know when a child is ready to receive Christ? Are there signs? Should parents bring up the subject, or do we wait for the Holy Spirit to speak to a child's heart? These are some of the questions a parent asks.

You may wonder, "Can a young child understand the meaning of salvation?" Here is where we are misled. We think that a child must "understand" rather than "believe" the message of salvation. Where does it say in the Bible that we must "understand" in order to be saved? It does say, however, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved." Salvation is God's gift to us, isn't it? Have you ever noticed how quickly a child will accept a gift? He happily reaches out and accepts it, without wondering what he needs to do to earn it.

To my single parents, we must be ready to present the gospel and not be afraid to repeat the message often. Remember to pray for your children. Ask the Holy Spirit to prepare their hearts, just as adult hearts are prepared. Children should never be forced into accepting Christ; on the other hand, when a child is ready, we should not reject their decision by saying, "You're too young," or "You don't understand everything."

After a child becomes a Christian, remember that he needs to be discipled. It is important to praise the child for his decision, and rejoice with him. Encourage him or her to tell others of their conversion experience. Children can be led to Christ. God made the message simple so that even a child could hear and respond. Take every opportunity to present this wonderful message to your children. Do it now!
"Bring Them To The King."

SCRIPTURE READING COLOSSIANS 2

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

When all else fails, follow the instructions.