S.O.H.L. (11/30/09) <u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u> Pronounced "Soul" Save The Children

GENESIS 9:1 NLT – (1) And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. There are many children today living life without the total package of parenthood. Meaning the mother or father is missing in their lives or both! Therefore, the children live by a term called survival. A term that has everything in it but God. This is how most of our kids are living. This was not God's plan for his children. This is not the blessing he bestowed to them. The next paragraph gives an explanation of how important the children are to Christ.

MATTHEW 19:13-15 NLT – **(13)** One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him. **(14)** When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. **(15)** I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

Explanation: Some parents or nurses brought little children to Christ, that he should touch them, in remembrance of him blessing them. It does not appear that they needed bodily cures, nor were they incapable of being taught but those who had the care of them believed that Christ's blessing would do their souls good, therefore; they brought them to him. Jesus ordered that they should be brought to him, and that nothing should be said or done to hinder it. Children should be directed to the Savior <u>as soon as they are able to understand his words.</u> Also, we must receive the kingdom of God as little children; we must stand affected to Christ and his grace, as little children to their parents, nurses and teachers.

Whether you are a single parent or not, God gives the parents or guardians these simple instructions on training his children.

PROVERBS 22:6 NLT - (6) Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.

EPHESIANS 6:4 (4) Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Instructions to the children by the parents, once they (the children) are able to understand. Parents we must understand to teach we must be following the total example.

EPHESIANS 6:1- 4 NLT – (1) Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. (2) "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise: (3) If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."

ECCLESIASTES 11:9-10 NASB – (9) Rejoice, young man, during your childhood, and let your heart be pleasant during the days of young manhood. And follow the impulses of your heart and the desires of your eyes <u>Yet know</u> that God will bring you to judgment for all these things. (10) So, remove grief and anger from your heart and put away pain from your body, because childhood and the prime of life are fleeting.

The next scripture is explaining the effects that come with age.

ECCLESIASTES 12:1-7 NASB - (1) Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight in them"; (2) before the sun and the light, the moon and the stars are darkened, and clouds return after the rain; (3) in the day that the watchmen of the house tremble, and mighty men stoop, the grinding ones stand idle because they are few, and those who look through windows grow dim; (4) and the doors on the street are shut as the sound of the grinding mill is low, and one will arise at the sound of the bird, and all the daughters of song will sing softly. (5) Furthermore, men are afraid of a high place and of terrors on the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags himself along, and the caperberry is ineffective. For man goes to his eternal home while mourners go about in the street. (6) Remember Him before the silver cord is broken and the golden bowl is crushed, the pitcher by the well is shattered and the wheel at the cistern is crushed; (7) then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

Single parents let us evaluate the previous generations and look at the generation today. Do your part as a parent, guardian, uncle, aunt or whatever role you play in the life of a child. Be that example now if you have not been doing so! The children must see it. Let's all come together and do our part. "Save the children".

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 18:6

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Children, we brought them here. Lets show them we care God's way!