

Rediscovering Your Faith As A Child

"Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven". (Matthew 18:3) "Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." (Luke 18:17) Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 19:4) The Bible has over 50 passages that refer to having a faith of a child. Obviously, God is trying to tell us something! Oh, to have this kind of faith! It can be very difficult to have the faith of a child, when one is trying to tackle all of life's challenges on their own. Yes, we must admit that many times we try to solve all of our problems on our own. But having the faith of a child does not allow to have that type of mind set. Faith is a very humble quality, which is perhaps why it is associated with childlikeness. A child is completely dependent on adults for safety, sustenance, and knowledge. At what point in our lives has that diminished? God wants us to be absolutely dependent. The faith God looks for is humble, teachable, and trusting—like a child. **Children have complete trust on the one they are asking.** Imagine if we prayed like this and were so focused on God that we had no doubts on the outcome. **Children understand so little yet they are so much more right than we give them credit for.** Their faith has no strings attached. Their faith is carefree. They are free to live in the present with no concern for the future. They have no worries about a bank account, paying bills, the price of gas going up, the next doctor appointment, war in the Middle East, politics or what people think. They can focus and revel in the moment because they are not caught up by the complications and distractions of this life. Holy Scripture tells us that children exhibit qualities that we all should have: 1.) Complete dependence in God 2.) Curiosity in wanting to know more about God 3.) They have unconditional love 4.) They live in the moment with innocence and anticipation. These qualities represent how each of us should approach our relationship with God. One of the wonderful things about being a follower of Jesus is that there is nothing wrong with being childlike. In fact, childlike faith is something Jesus looks for and delights in. Every "new born" believer is childlike in faith. The challenge is how to remain childlike in faith once we grow up. —Sherrie Clutts DRE