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What Did Jesus Teach Us About the Youth

Mark 10:13-16; Matthew 18:1-6 (ESV)

(cross-reference: Matthew 19:13-15; Luke 18:15-17)

- A. According to Jesus, the youth are a priority to him, and He wants everyone to realize it.

Mark 10:13–16

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.

¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” ¹⁶ And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Matthew 18:1–6

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ² And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³ and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶ but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

- B. According to the Gospels, there are six important observations about Jesus’ interactions with the youth:

1. Jesus _____ the children to come to him.
2. Jesus _____ the children to be comforted by him.

3. Jesus _____ the children into the kingdom to be with him.
4. Jesus _____ at the disciples for rebuking the children.
5. Jesus _____ the disciples for hindering the children.
6. Jesus _____ the disciples with a parable for confusing the children.

- C. According to the Bible, there are real concerns for the youth that everyone needs to understand in order to reach the next generation:

1. The youth need _____. (1 Samuel 17:33, 42)
2. The youth need _____.
Psalm 71:17-18
3. The youth need _____. (Psalm 78:5-7)
4. The youth need to _____.
Psalm 144:12
5. The youth need to _____. (Jeremiah 1:6-8)

- D. According to God’s Word, parents and leaders must rise up and spiritually invest in the youth because they group up quickly:

1. The youth need _____. (Deuteronomy 6:7)
2. The youth need _____. (Proverbs 22:6)
3. The youth need _____.
(Ecclesiastes 12:1, 13)
4. The youth need _____. (Titus 2:7-8)

Your Assignment:

Jesus wants us to be more *welcoming, supportive, and invested* in the youth because the Kingdom of God belongs to them. Get involved and help serve in our MagKIDS, Magnolia Students, and Mag College ministries this summer and next school year.