

WISE AS A CHILD Mark 10:13-15

Faith – to trust, have confidence in, persuaded, believe.

James 2:17 The bible is pretty clear about what God thinks about those who say they have faith.

I Samuel 15:22 Regardless if we are talking about the O. T. or the N. T. the bible is absolutely clear on what God expects. There are literally hundreds of scriptural references on how God expects and demands His people to be obedient.

Child Like Faith

Luke 18:10-12; Colossians 1:21-22 While hopefully not every believer is like the Pharisee who thought too highly of himself, we all have a pretty good image of ourselves. From a worldly perspective we are pretty much self-sufficient. We usually buy what we want or at least anything we need. Most of us have good health care, a nice home and a good family. That *worldly perspective* is our problem. As adults we think we are self-sufficient when we are really totally dependent on God.

Luke 18:15-17 It is no coincidence that these verses follow directly after the parable of the Pharisee and the publican. Real spiritual life to God is living the Christian life as a child. What does Jesus mean?

Learning from children Romans 14:22 Children are generally happy go lucky in everything they do.

Matthew 18:21-22 Children have the uncanny ability to forgive each other in a matter of seconds.

John 15:12 Children show unconditional love for their parents regardless of their living conditions, their financial position, the way they are clothed, what they have to eat or the kind of house they have.

I Peter 5:7; John 14:1 Young children are honest, they do not hide their feelings or emotions, they live in the moment and do not worry about much because if they need something they ask for it!

Proverbs 3:5-6 Children have a way of accepting things in a simple way and believing everything their parents says! It is only when we grow up that we start to question things? God works with faith!!

Matthew 18:4; Luke 14:11 The humility of children is always evident in their interaction with each other and especially with their parents or those in authority. They generally have no problem with the pecking order that they are involved with during any experience they have.

Matthew 11:28-30; Ephesians 5:17-21 One of the best qualities in children is their meekness. They are generally lowly in heart, submissive, and lack a strong will, they are totally dependent on parents.

Child Like Walk

II Corinthians 5:6-7 Paul reminds us that believers must not build their lives around the things of the world that have no eternal meaning. We must focus on what our Father tells us are the things that will please Him. Isn't that what a child is expected to do?

Hebrews 11:6 As believers we are to have the mind set of doing the things that please the Lord and have complete trust that when we do please Him we will be rewarded, much like a child to their father.

Hebrews 11:8; II Corinthians 6:17 As believers we are called to “go out” or to “come out” not knowing where or what God wants from us but to obey, much like a child when told by their father.

Genesis 37:4-5 When we are walking by faith and perceive what God has for us and what He wants to do in us we are often misunderstood by those closest to us much like a child and their siblings.

Daniel 3:1-30 Much like the three Hebrew children when we decide to walk by faith in this life it will require determination, fearlessness, and much trust in God when faced with fierce opposition. Many times we are called out from our comfort zone to take a stand, to do something we have never tried, to help someone we do not know, to give to a cause that cannot give back.