

14. Think about the characters in Hebrews 11 (Abraham, Noah, Joseph, etc.) How did they demonstrate their faith?
15. Would you say faith is natural for you or does it come hard? Why is it easier for children?
16. What is an area in your life where you need to return to child-like faith? What would that look like? Share your answer with someone who will pray for you during the next week(s).

Personal reflections for parents and teachers:

1. Why is it important for us to remember Jesus' words about becoming like children before we teach children?
2. What does it mean to become like children? What does it *not* mean to become like children?
3. Why do you think it's important to allow children to use their imagination?
4. How would you describe the difference between relational knowledge and subjective knowledge? Give an example of each? Which is most important for a child?
5. If you could narrow down what is most important for a child to learn in the home or the church, what would you say that is? How can you best communicate that?



The Importance of Being Childish

Sermon Notes:

We've all wanted to see something _____.

But as we grow up, we lose our sense of wonder. (Grown-up vices)

- We get buried in _____.
- We become concerned about what people _____.
- We're taught to step back and _____ everything.

The most important knowledge is _____.

Scripture: Matthew 18:1-5

Jesus said they need to _____.

If they don't, they can never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

- The Kingdom is where God is _____ in the world.

We need to become like _____.

- We typically see it the other way around.

Being child-like...

1. Restores our ability to _____.

- Our problem is _____.
- The solution is _____.

2. Restores our ability to _____.

3. Restores our ability to _____ what God is doing.

“Without faith it is _____ to please God.” (Hebrews 11:6)

“...He rewards those who _____ seek Him.”

How do we value our kids?

1. Don't squash _____.
2. Teach _____ and _____.
3. Love _____.

Questions for Reflection and Application:

1. What is the most amazing thing you've ever seen?
2. What is the most amazing thing you've seen God do?
3. What are the three “grown-up vices” Kory talked about? Are there other vices particular to growing up?
4. Why are we more skeptical of *relational* (experiential) knowledge than we are about *objective* knowledge? Should we be?
5. Which vice is the greatest struggle for you personally? Where did this tendency come from?
6. Why is change such a hard thing for people?
7. What is your greatest barrier to changing?

Last week, Kory talked about how our goal is to move from a “dualistic” faith (i.e. everything is black and white, automatically trust authority, rules and punishment are the motivator) to “Commitment.”

8. In Matthew 18:1-5 it seems as though Jesus teaches His disciples to go back to dualistic faith. What is the difference between “dualistic” faith and faith in the commitment stage?
9. What do you think Jesus means when He tells His followers to become like little children?
10. Explain the three abilities Pastor Kory said becoming child-like restores?
11. Why does God value these abilities?
12. Read Hebrews 11:6. Why does God place such a high value on faith?
13. How is faith “spiritual vision?”