

Episode 3: Jesus Loves All The Little Children

While you watch: In my opinion, this is the slowest episode of the entire Chosen series, but you can get through it! The entire episode focuses on Jesus with the children, there are no other lead characters in this episode. While it is a very short episode, I think it shows how much Jesus values children. As you watch this episode, mark off each person and the main events that happen in the show. This will help to keep your attention throughout the episode.

Characters:

- Jesus
- Abigail
- Joshua
- Crowd of children

Events:

- Jesus sleeping in a tent
- Jesus meets Abigail
- Jesus meets Joshua
- Jesus teaches the children
- Jesus leaves a gift for Abigail

Did you catch that Jesus said he had to heal his friend Mary? The first part of the episode took place before episode 1 and the second part of this episode took place after he drove out the demons from Mary.

Reflect on the episode: The episode takes place in the outskirts of Capernaum in 26 AD. Jesus is by himself doing simple everyday tasks when a little girl named Abigail befriends him. The whole episode revolves around Jesus being with the children. He cared for the children, played with them, taught them and told them about his mission.

While this interaction between Jesus and the children is not explicitly stated in scripture, it provides insight so we can see Jesus as an everyday man. We also can see that he loves the little children and makes time for them. Although the scripture below is not a direct depiction of this episode, it shows you that Jesus' love for children is stated in the bible. Read the verses below and fill in the blanks:

- **Matthew 19:13-14 (ESV)** – ¹³ “The children were brought to Jesus that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, ¹⁴ but Jesus said ‘Let the little _____ come to me and do not hinder them, for such belongs the kingdom of _____.’”
- **Matthew 18:3-4 (ESV)** ³ and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like _____, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of _____.”
- **Mark 10:15 (ESV)** Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a _____ shall not enter it.”

What does it mean to you that Jesus spent time with the children and loved them? What does this reveal about his character?

Why do you think Jesus said we should have faith like a child and the kingdom of heaven belongs to little children?

Jesus is emphasizing the qualities of humility, trust and being open to learning, rather than pride, greed and self-sufficiency that we see in adults. A child believes whole-heartedly and doesn't let fear, anxiety, doubt lessen their belief. Are you approaching your faith and spiritual journey with humility, trust in the Lord and an open heart to learning more about God and Jesus?

In this episode, Jesus conducts his daily life. Read the verses below and circle the professions Jesus had.

- **Mark 6:3 (ESV)** *“Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.*
- **John 3:2 (ESV)** *This man (Nicodemus) came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.”*

Do you relate to Jesus more because he was an ordinary man? How did you feel watching Jesus perform normal tasks like camping, cooking, making a fire, singing, playing with the children?

As more children come with Abigail, Jesus starts to use his time with them to teach them about God. They ask Jesus questions, which he honestly answers, and he shares things that he has not yet shared with his disciples or any adults. There were a few things that he said, which came specifically from scripture. Fill in the blanks below:

1. Jesus told the children as they prayed together to remember the following:
 - a. **Deuteronomy 6:5 (ESV)** *You shall love the Lord your God with all your _____ and with all your _____ and with all your might.*
2. Jesus then teaches the kids the Our Father prayer, not to fight and it is not an eye for an eye or a tooth for a tooth, but to be different. Fill in the blanks below:
 - a. **Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV)** *⁹ Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your _____ be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread, ¹² and forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from _____.*
 - b. **Leviticus 24:20 (ESV)** *Fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; whatever injury he has given a person shall be given to him.*
 - c. Jesus will address this more in his Sermon on the Mount. Look up Matthew 5:38-42 from his famous sermon. What is Jesus saying that we heard him preview to the children?

3. Jesus talks about the Messiah coming and how the Lord loves justice and it is for the Lord to administer justice and not ourselves. Fill in the blanks below:
- a. **Psalm 33:5 (ESV)** He loves righteousness and _____; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.
 - b. **Psalm 103:6 (ESV)** The Lord works righteousness and _____ for all who are oppressed.

The last thing that Jesus told the kids was that he was about to go on an upcoming mission and many will not like him. He said he hopes his next students listen as well as the children did and that they tell their friends about him like the children.

The next students Jesus is referring to are the 12 disciples and adults. Have you been listening to what Jesus has commanded in the gospels? Are you living this out? Are you telling other about Jesus like Abigail?

Did you catch the Old Testament reference to David and Saul? Jesus told the children that they need to let the Lord administer justice, like David did even though he had the opportunity to kill Saul in the cave when he was hunting David. Revisit the story: 1 Samuel 24
