

Child-like Vs. Childish

*But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, **Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. 15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. 16** And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them. Mark 10:14-16 KJV*

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may GROW UP into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ Ephesians 4:14, 15 (KJV)

Child-like- Like or befitting a child, as in innocence, trustfulness, or candor.

Childish- Of, relating to, or suitable for a child or childhood; marked by or indicating a lack of maturity.

Regardless to how we were raised, we were all children. There is a divine, loving, trusting nature in a child that is precious to Jesus. He never desires for us to lose the traits of "child-likeness, only childishness. Religion has created to fallacy that maturity in Christ means that become cold and untrusting. One is considered gullible, and naïve when our childlike hearts are open to others. As we grow in Christ we should never lose the faith filled perspective of trust.

1 Cor 13:11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things (KJV)

Paul is not despising his childhood. In context, he understood that there were some things from his past he should grow from, and other parts that were necessary to embrace. Faith as a child denotes an innocence and simplicity that eliminates the confusion of over thinking, engages trust, optimism and expectation while drawing us closer to the heart of Jesus.

It is our prayer that during this week you will reflect on your ability to stay close to faith in Christ with Child-like faith.