

“See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God” 1John 3:2-1

Can you imagine what God must be thinking and how He reacts to the way we live out our everyday lives... When you start to look at your life, as if it appears from the outside looking in and seeing not only our actions, but the thoughts that go along with them. God must shake His head and wonder if we are ever going to learn. It is just like the way a mother or father look upon their child, with a sense of wonder and delight at all they have learned, their ability to discover and all that they have not yet realized.

“How we live can be defined by how we love.” Unknown

What does it mean to be child-like? Does it mean to be naive and ignorant? Does it mean that we have to be limited and held back from life by a leash? To be child-like is to be present in the moment, to focus on the task and people who are in that moment. Isn't it amazing how children observe even the smallest details and respond to everything with such honesty, not caring what someone else is going to think or say.

“The Adult is not an example to the child, rather the child is the example to the adult.” Unknown

Children have courage and an eagerness to learn and grow, they are quick to be sincerely sorry and never stop trusting and loving their parents. Children are quick to make friends and loyal to what they know is right. Child-like innocence is not being held back, it's understanding, experiencing and expressing the greater reality of the world around us. How do we respond to God...how do we interact with others? Are we only children in God's eyes, or are we child-like by His grace?

“Never lose the childlike wonder. Show gratitude... Don't complain; just work harder... Never give up.” Randy Pausch

“Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it.” Luke 18:17

To be child-like in God's eyes, is to make Him smile with delight and wonderment at His creation. We don't always get it right, but God never stops hoping or helping us. He never gives up on us.

Father of all creation,

Teach what it means to have the faith of a child. Help me to see and live for the greater world around me, to respond with love and be attentive to the needs of all. May I forever be child-like in Your eyes, and may all who encounter me experience the child of You in me. AMEN