

Scripture reference: The Friend of Little Children: Jesus and the Children

Story summary: The disciples are arguing over who would be greatest and have the highest status. Jesus teaches his disciples that they need to receive the kingdom of God as a little child.

Optional Lesson Strengthening: Say: "Let's play a game about trust. Ask the three volunteers to be the travellers. Blindfold them and position them close to a wall. Put the chair on the opposite side of the room and announce that it is "Home." Ask one person to stand beside each traveller as the guide. Ask everybody else to find a place to stand in the room with their arms and legs spread out. Explain that they are obstacles between the traveler and getting home. The obstacles should find a place to stand and then remain still. If an obstacle deliberately moves, then they are out. Explain the game: The travellers need to get home without bumping into any of the obstacles or one another. The guides walk beside their blindfolded travellers and can call out any instructions they like to get the travellers home; e.g., "Take four steps forward, stop; take one step right, stop"; etc. If a traveler bumps into an obstacle or into another traveller, they have to go back to the wall and start again. Make sure the obstacles are staggered around the room so it is actually possible for the travellers to get home. Play the game for 2 minutes or until someone gets home. Ask the children to remove their blindfolds and ask them what it felt like to have to trust the guides. Get a few answers. Say: "In order for you to get home, you had to trust and depend on your guides. If you'd tried to do it on your own, you would not have made it. If your guides were not trustworthy, you would not have made it. If you decided not to trust what your guides said, then you would not have made it. You had to trust. In today's story we are going to meet a group of people who found it easy to trust.*

Activities:

What you need:

- Template
- Colouring in crayons or pencils
- Erasor

Further discussion: Gods grace is given without merit. Entrance to the kingdom is given freely. The people who enter the kingdom are not the "worthy" and accomplished, but those who are willing to admit their helplessness and simply depend. Jesus rebukes the disciples, who still don't see that acknowledged weakness and dependence are the real qualifications for the kingdom. What did you discover about Jesus from today's story?

Resources*:

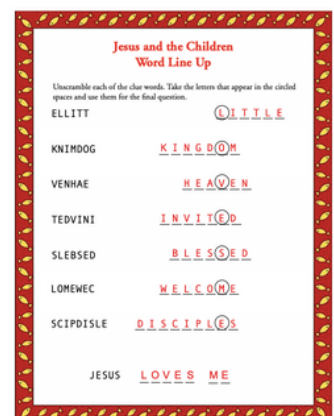
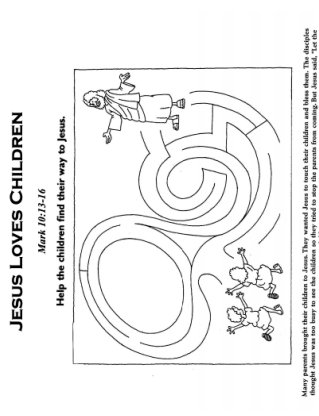
https://www.firebrandchurch.com/images/TheJesusStory/Lessons/33_friendoflittlechildren.pdf

Pre-primary

Gr 1-2

Gr 3-4

Gr 4-5



JESUS LOVES CHILDREN

Mark 10:13-16

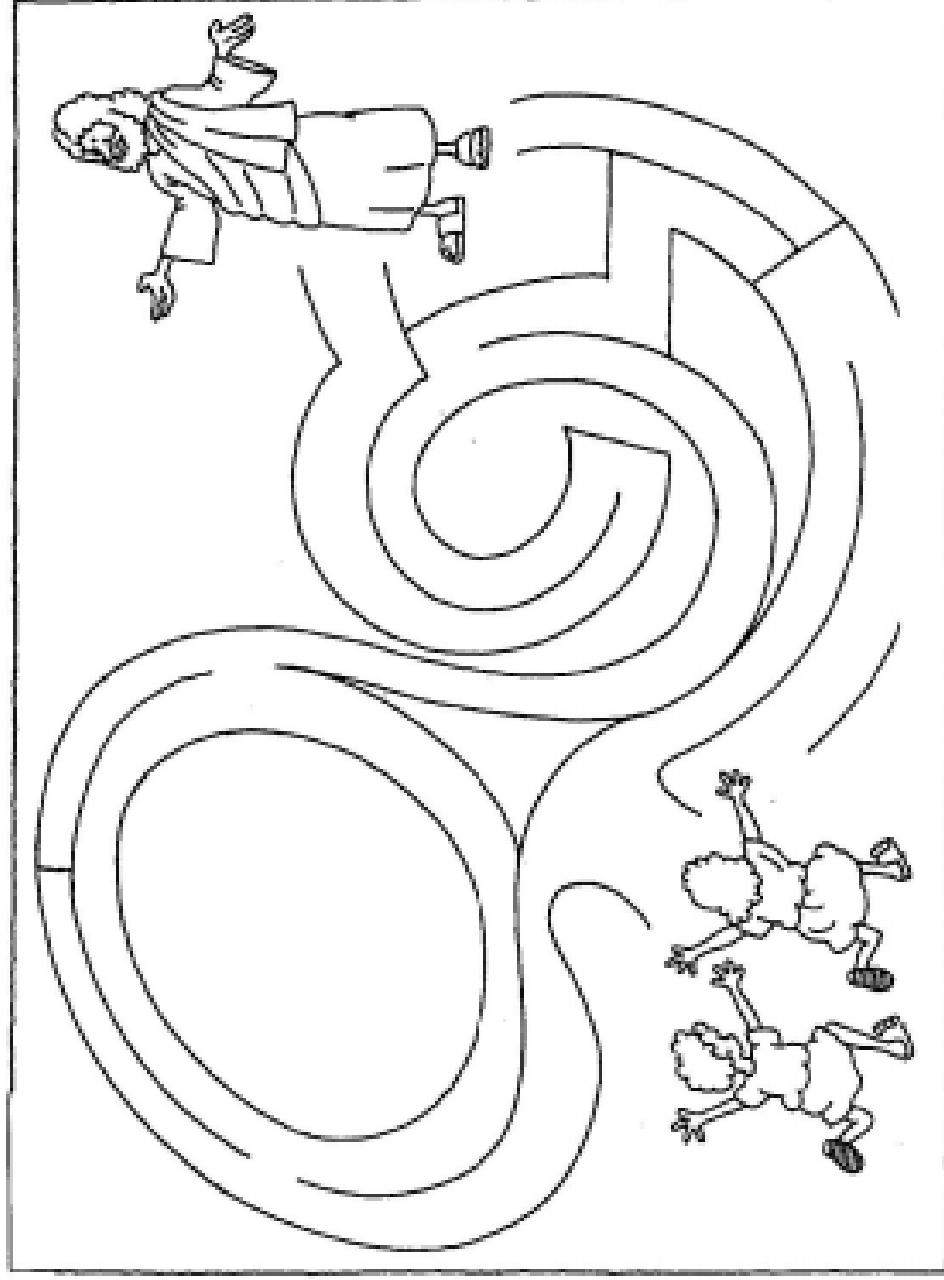


Jesus did not want his disciples to keep the children away from him

JESUS LOVES CHILDREN

Mark 10:13-16

Help the children find their way to Jesus.



Many parents brought their children to Jesus. They wanted Jesus to touch their children and bless them. The disciples thought Jesus was too busy to see the children so they tried to stop the parents from coming. But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

JESUS LOVES CHILDREN

Mark 10:13-16

The Challenge

Jesus loved everyone, especially children. He showed it through his words and actions. Can you tell what Jesus is saying to these kids by matching the letters to the blanks below?



- | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | | |

The Super Challenge

Circle 11 things wrong with this picture.

Jesus and the Children

Word Line Up

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circled spaces and use them for the final question.

ELLITT

○ _ _ _ _ _

KNIMDOG

_ _ _ _ ○ _

VENHAE

_ _ _ ○ _ _

TEDVINI

_ _ _ _ ○ _

SLEBSED

_ _ _ _ ○ _ _

LOMEWEC

_ _ _ _ _ ○ _

SCIPDISLE

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ ○ _

JESUS

_ _ _ _ _ _ _