

All the Children of the World

Small hearts making big differences

P: "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." Psalm 127:3

Lord of the Heavens and earth, we ask you to be present among us today as we celebrate children and childhood. May we equip our children with tools of wisdom and compassion, and may they use their blessings to truly make a difference. As time goes on, help us to lead each day with childlike innocence and inquisitiveness, and continue to always find the good in the world. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Paul Joseph Baloche

Kauma

P. †Glory be to the Father our Creator, to the Son our Redeemer and to the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us.

C. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

P. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

C. Blessed is He that has come and is to come again in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

P. Holy art thou, O God.

C. Holy art thou, Almighty Lord.

P. Holy art thou, Immortal Lord.

C. O Lord, the Messiah who was crucified for us † have mercy on us.

(To be repeated thrice)

P. O Lord, have mercy on us.

C. O Lord, have mercy on us and bless us.

P. O Lord, accept our prayers and worship and have mercy on us.

C. Glory be to you, O God.

P. Glory be to you, O Creator.

C. Glory be to you, O King the Messiah; who has mercy on us sinners.
Bless us, O Lord.

(Let us say together the prayer that Jesus taught us)

***All: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is done in heaven.***

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, Forever. Amen.

(Cong to be seated)

Lesson 1: 1 Samuel 3:1-9

Lesson 2: Ephesians 6:1-4

L: Meditation - 10 Important Life Lessons Children Teach Us

Many a time, we are so busy trying to teach our children lessons and values, that we forget that they have so much to offer too. Unknowingly, they teach us more than we will ever know.

They teach us:

1. **To Be Curious:** Children ask questions, peek into cupboards, and push buttons. It's important as an adult to remember that being inquisitive is how we learn. And there is always more to learn.

2. **To Find Joy in The Simple Pleasures:** A perfectly timed burp. Sliding down a water slide. Children appreciate the simple pleasures because they don't have unrealistic expectations. They understand that joy can be found anywhere. As adults, we must remember to keep seeking the simple pleasures.
3. **To Accept:** Children don't judge. They don't see colour, faults or flaws; they see the potential for a new friend. Tolerance is a lesson none of us should forget.
4. **To Express Our Emotions:** Children scream when they're mad. Squeal when they're happy. Wail when they're sad. As adults, it's good to remember that it's much better for our soul to let it out then keep it bottled in.
5. **To Live in The Moment:** Children never stop playing cars to meet any other self-imposed deadline. Instead, little ones stay in the present where they feel joy. So, sip your coffee—the laundry can wait an hour. Live in the now, it makes life more enjoyable.
6. **To Be Passionate:** A craft, a car, or a dollhouse can keep a child entertained, enthralled and busy for hours or even days. When a child discovers a new activity, they embrace it with love and excitement. They put their whole selves into the endeavour. As adults, we need to remember to not temper our passion but rather embrace it—it's how greatness is achieved.
7. **To Savour the Sweet Moments:** Playing in the bath, tumbling across the floor or nestling in our arms are just a few of the sweet moments children never rush. They don't stop or pull away to sweep, or take a call. Their pure delight living in the moment teaches us that *now* are the good old days.
8. **To Not Limit Ourselves:** A firefighter, the president, a space cowboy. Children believe they can be anything because they don't limit themselves. It's not their perceived flaws and shortcomings that dictate their dreams but rather their interests and passions. So, the next time you think you can't, remember that you can.
9. **To Be Fearless:** Children jump, climb, and tumble. They taste, try, and run headlong into new experiences. It's a good reminder to adults that being bold and daring makes for the best memories and a much more interesting life.
10. **To Indulge, Savour and Enjoy:** Children don't gobble down their food. They don't turn away dessert. They welcome and enjoy the things and moments that bring them joy. Adults should always bear in mind that indulging in and savouring the sweet things in life is what makes life sweet.

So the next time you are rushing to finish a chore, or trudging from one stop to another, remember to hold your child longer or skip down the sidewalk. Most importantly, take a moment to learn the valuable lessons your child can teach *you*.

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L: We are the children of the World

We are the children of the World

We all have sun shiny faces,

We all come from different places,

We all have different shapes and faces.

We all have different sizes,

We each talk with different voices and our languages come from different places,

We all learn different things, and sorrow, pain, joy or love fills our faces,

We all sing different songs and play games.

We all have hearts that beat each day,

We all can be hurt in some way,

We all can feel tall or small, We can all cry or scream,

We all can be taught but some things we should not be taught,

We all are loved in some way,

We all can be afraid,

We all have things or have not,

We are the Children of the world and Jesus Christ forgets us not.

Hymn

Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world
Red, brown, yellow, black and white
They are precious in His sight
Jesus loves the little children
Of the world

Jesus died for all the children
All the children of the world

Red, brown, yellow, black and white
They are precious in His sight
Jesus died for all the children
Of the world

Jesus rose for all the children
All the children of the world
Red, brown, yellow, black and white
They are precious in His sight
Jesus rose for all the children
Of the world

Music: George Frederick Root, Words: Clare Herbert Woolston

Psalm 8

PLORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
in the heavens.

C: Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.

P: When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?

C: You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.

P: You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:
all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,
the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.

C: LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Cong to stand

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy

P: Loving God, you are the giver of all we possess, the source of all of our blessings. We thank and praise you.
Today, we come before you to thank you for the gift of our children. Help us to acknowledge and respect the great responsibility of bringing up these blessings from heaven. May we set boundaries for them, and yet encourage them to explore. May we give them the same respect and love they shower upon us.

C: May our children come to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love, so they may know peace, truth, and goodness. We pray that you would direct their steps, that your plans for them would prosper, and that every place you have determined for them to walk would be paved clear. Allow every gift and treasure you have placed inside their lives to grow, develop and flourish, to bring glory to you alone, forevermore. Amen.

Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy

Intercessory Prayers

L: We come together today to celebrate children. Let us lift up the children today. Let us lift up the children we've met. Let us lift up the promise in each small heart of the children we don't know yet. Let us lift up the children with families. Let us lift up the children alone. Let us lift up the children with voices strong before all of the children are grown. Let us lift up the children who work in fields and the children at school and play. Let us lift our world's children together. Let us lift up all children and guide their hearts to our God.

C: *To be sung*
Lord I come, I confess
Bowing here, I find my rest
Without You, I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Lord, I need You, oh I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You!

L: As our children grow, help us to grow with them and learn from them each day. Let us never make them feel neglected or unloved. Mould our love for them, just as you have designed. Help us understand that no two children are alike and that each of them is blessed with their own unique identity and talents. We ask you to sensitise our hearts and minds to their needs and requirements and help us to always be able to provide them a supportive, healthy atmosphere to discover, explore and grow in Holiness and love of thee.

C: *To be sung*

**Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are, Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me**

**Lord, I need You, oh I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You!**

L: Our Heavenly Creator, we submit to you children in vulnerable situations – those who are sick, those who are made to feel unworthy, those who are wronged, those who are born into grim lifestyles, those who are put to work and those who are made to take responsibility for themselves and others at a young age. We ask that you show them light amidst darkness, and give them the privilege of hope, the blessing of dreams. May they be given platforms for them to showcase their skill and talent, and may their childhood be enriched with the goodness of your holy spirit. May you be their hope and stay.

C: *To be sung*

**So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay**

**Lord, I need You, oh I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You
You're my one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You!**

L: We commit under your care the various institutions set up around the world to ensure child safety and security. We thank you for the multiple establishments of our church that work to enrich children's lives. We ask for their sustenance and pray that these places continue to spread goodness all through the world. Help us as individuals to strive to give our future generation a brighter tomorrow. We especially pray for our School at Bidadi and the Mar Thoma Opportunity School at Krishnarajpuram, Bangalore.

Help us to not shirk away from our responsibilities as a church, as parents and as individuals. Bless us and empower us to be missionaries of change in our world and the world our children will have to live in. Amen.

C: *To be sung*

Lord, I need You, oh I need You

**Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You
You're my one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You!**

Gospel Reading

P: †Peace be with you all.

C: May the Lord make us all worthy to listen to His Word.

P: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, which proclaims life and salvation to the world as recorded by **Matthew 18:1-5**

C: Blessed is He that has come and will come again. Praise to the Father who sent him for our Salvation. May His blessings be ever upon us.

P: In the days of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, the Word of life, God incarnate of the blessed Virgin Mary, it happened in this way.

C: So, we believe and affirm.

(After reading the Gospel, the priest says,†'**Peace be with you all'**)

C: We thank you, Lord, that you have given us your gospel which is indeed the light of the world, that we may be drawn closer to you through the living words from your gospel which we have now heard.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in the one true God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all world; Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified† also for us in the days of Pontius Pilate; suffered and died and was buried. The third day He rose again, by His Father's holy will, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. He will come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead and of His kingdom there will be no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets and the apostles. We believe in one Holy Catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the new life of the world to come. Amen.

Birthday, Wedding Anniversary and Thanksgiving

I'm trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord
I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes yes Lord, Amen

I am pressed but not crushed,
Persecuted not abandoned
Struck down but not destroyed
I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promise will endure
That His joy is gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night
His joy comes in the morning || Yes Lord ||

I'm trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord
I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord!
Darrell Evans

Offertory

Every praise is to our God.
Every word of worship with one accord
Every praise every praise is to our God.
Sing hallelujah to our God
Glory hallelujah is due our God
Every praise every praise is to our God.

God my Saviour
God my Healer
God my Deliverer
Yes He is, yes He is

God my Saviour
God my Healer
God my Deliverer
Yes He is, yes He is!

Hezekiah Walker

MESSAGE

Closing Prayer and Benediction

P: May our children truly know you, Lord
May their ears hear your voice.
May their eyes see your presence in all things.

C: May their lips proclaim your word.
May their hearts be your dwelling place.
May their hands do works of charity.
May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ,
your Son and our Lord. Amen.

P: Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

May the Lord shower his blessing and grace on his own dear children. Amen.

Doxology

Jambo !
Jesus loves you
Are you happy?
He is with you
Kareebo into his presence
Why do you worry?
Hakuna-matata

Ohhh ohhh ohhh !
Almighty GOD.

[illegible]