



Don't Look Now 4 – Don't Look Down on Children
Spiritual Formation Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take a next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

"About that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?"

² Jesus called a little child to him and put the child among them. ³ Then he said, "I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. ⁴ So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

⁵ "And anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf^[a] is welcoming me. ⁶ But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin, it would be better for you to have a large millstone tied around your neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea.

¹⁰ "Beware that you don't look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels are always in the presence of my heavenly Father."

Matthew 18:1-6, 10

"Give us today our daily bread."

Matthew 6:11

Reflection Questions:

- When have you felt the most carefree and childlike? Why?
- What is a characteristic that you admire in kids?
- Read Matthew 18:1-6, 10 slowly. Read it again, but from a different translation (use biblegateway.com if you need access to the NLT, Message paraphrase, NASB, NKJV). What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Chris shared, "Growing up in our relationship with God means growing into increasing dependence on God." Have you experienced this? Share what this looked like for you.

- In Sunday's message, Chris shared three things that prevent us from depending on God:
 - We don't depend on God because we don't want to ask for help.
 - We don't depend on God because we have grown comfortable.
 - We don't depend on God because we're worried about what others will think.

Which of these do you struggle with? Why is that?

- Kids are in constant conversation with the ones they love. Read Matthew 6:11. Use this simple prayer from Jesus to start an honest, childlike conversation between you and God. Write it out or say it out loud.
- What's one way this week that you can be more childlike in your connection to God? Draw a picture or write some phrases about what it might look like.
- What is God calling you to do in response to Jesus' teaching and this message? Who can you share with this week about this?

Looking for some ways to grow and be stretched spiritually? Check out our highlighted resources at www.wschurch.org/resources. These resources can be purchased using the links or are available for a small donation at the Next Steps area on Sunday mornings. This summer, we're looking to slow down and be with Jesus. At the resource page linked above, find lots of ideas for a *summer slow down*.