



*Grace
Place
Ministries . . . "Ordinary People Serving An Extraordinary God"*

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UNLESS YOU BECOME AS

APRIL 2016



Earlier this year I was looking through some family photo albums and came across this picture of me. As I was looking at how my mom had lovingly fixed my hair and dressed me in a pretty little dress, I heard the Lord say in my spirit, "You have to be like this little one and trust Me at all times." He then told me to put this picture in a frame and put it on my dresser so that I can be reminded daily to be a trusting and totally dependent child of His. I was raised by very loving parents who were people of integrity and who were very responsible in their home, work and church life. Because they imitated the Lord, their awesome example has always been the model before me. But, I feel so responsible for so many things that I can have trouble with being like a little child and fail at being teachable, trusting, humble, loving etc. I'll bet many of you who are reading this may also

struggle with these same issues. So, I want to share some thoughts with you that I have been pondering.

I have two wonderful daughters, five awesome grandkids and one great-grandson, so I have had lots of time with little ones! I have observed these little darlings and have seen them as totally trusting, dependent, carefree, innocent, teachable, humble, delightful, forgiving and loving just to name a few of their characteristics. In Matthew 18, *the disciples were asking Jesus who was the greatest in the kingdom of heaven, then Jesus set a little child in their midst and said, Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Converted or repent* means to simply change your mind. So, Holy Spirit, help us change our minds so that we can be not childish but child-like!!

Children are carefree....free of care! 1 Peter 5:7, *Cast all your cares on Him for He cares for you.* Children are trusting and peaceful. Isaiah 26:3-4, *You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for in YAH, the Lord is everlasting strength.*

Children are teachable. Psalms 25:4-5, *Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me.*

Children are dependent and need help. Isaiah 41:10, *Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.*

Children are innocent. Matthew 5:8, *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*

Children aren't judgmental....they don't discriminate according to race, color or social status. *Judge not, that you be not judged.*

Children are humble and they don't put on false airs or appearances. 1 Peter 5:5-6, *God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.*

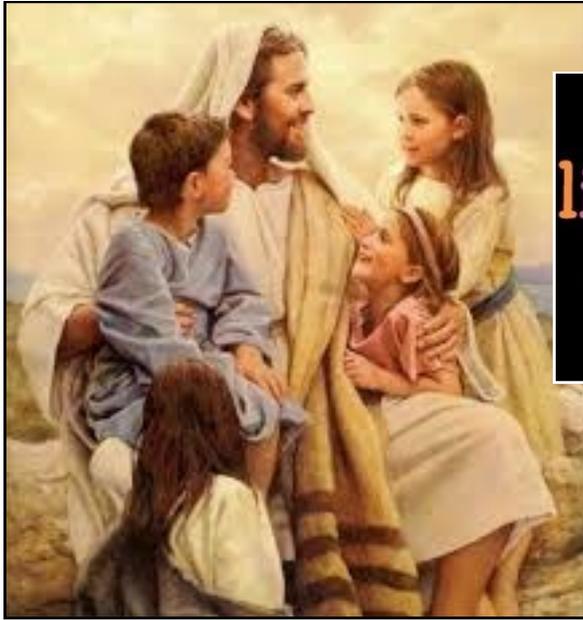
Children are so forgiving and don't hold grudges. *And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*

Children are naturally inclined to love. 1 John 4:7, *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*

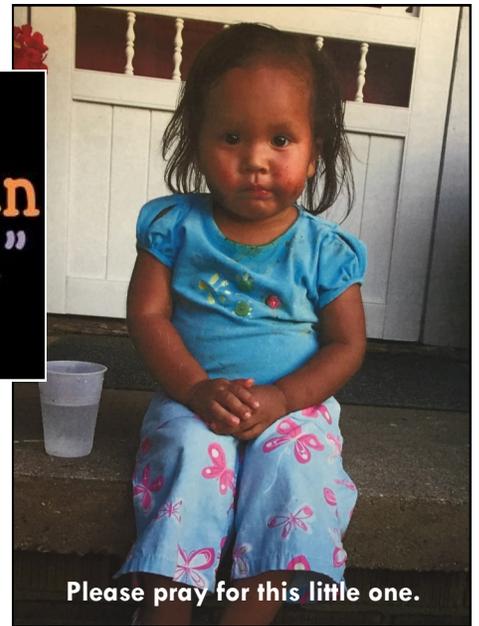
Heaven is full of children!! I truly want to be more childlike and know that in and of myself that won't happen apart from Holy Spirit showing me how! But, I am asking for His help and I know that you will, too! Take time to observe little ones around you and take notes. They are excellent examples and Jesus took the time to use a little one to teach all of us how to be the greatest in His kingdom!

Thank you for all of you who faithfully pray for, volunteer and support Grace Place! I so love and appreciate you and the Lord does, too!!

Rhonda



**"Let the
little children
come to me."
Matthew 19:14**



Please pray for this little one.

Look at life through the eyes of a child. See the wonder in everyday things, the glory of a dandelion, the beauty of a ladybug, the wonder of a treasure hunt, the magic of creating a daisy chain. We are easily tainted by the deceitfulness of the world, the dirt of gossip, the burdens of adulthood, but our true nature is to live in the fullness of the wonder of God. So that in all we do and in all we show, we experience the glory of our new creation. In effect our view of God and life creates the way we view everyone around us. —Alan Paul Stevens

Because I'm feeling silly today . . . hope these pics put a smile on your face but also get the point across to you!

