

Mark 10:13–16
SOHL God's Gift of Life, from the Very Beginning

Canon City EFC

1-14-18

MAIN IDEA: Human life is God's gift from the moment of conception, demanding our protection and care.

SUPPORTING IDEAS:

KIDS MATTER TO GOD

- obvious in Jesus: welcomes these little ones; & gets real ticked at those who push them away
- He LOVES them, because He MADE them, for one - Value in His sight - every one –
 - regardless of age, size, shape, intellect, talents/limitations
 - regardless of ability to produce/contribute in terms our world would value
- value begins at conception (Ps 139:13-16; Job 31:15, Is. 44:24; Is. 49.1; Jer 1:5; Luke 1:39-45)
- value rooted in being made by God, bearing His image

KIDS ARE VULNERABLE / DEPENDENT – can be “hindered”, v.13, not seen as Jesus sees them

- our society has redefined life, & so the unborn, elderly, those with disabilities are at risk
- this has occurred in other societies (Nazi Germany, ancient Rome, ancient Greece)
- A Society that puts its own comfort & convenience ahead of the protection & care for children is both immoral & doomed
 - Immoral, because it violates the image of God in the most vulnerable among us
 - Doomed (Self destructive) - we destroy our future - a form of societal suicide

WE ARE CALLED TO CARE FOR KIDS – Jesus welcomes children & blesses them

- *Defend . . . uphold . . . rescue . . . deliver* – active care (Ps 82)
- Good examples, standing up for life: CCPC, Young Lives, foster care, adoption, child sponsorship
- Public Education, Child labor laws, Distinction in criminal law between adults and juveniles
- Commitment to pediatrics, children's hospitals, neonatal units
- Care for those with disabilities: American Disabilities Act; Care given to protect children & vulnerable adults, through DHS or other agencies like Starpoint; special needs education

CONCLUSION / APPLICATION:

Start by seeing things from the disciples' perspective. Why is it easy to ignore or push children away? How can that attitude become much more destructive? Cite examples of how our world harms kids.

Review the scriptures listed above concerning when human life begins. How does this differ from our society's view?

What is Jesus' attitude toward children? Were they useful or productive? Why did He still love them? Why is a utilitarian view of life so dangerous?

Why must we stand up for life? What are some daily ways in which we can support life, both those already born & those unborn? How can we support women in an unexpected & difficult pregnancy?