

***Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way***

October 4, 2015

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16



“Let the Children Come” Object: None Needed

How did you get to church this morning? I imagine that most of you came with your parents. Perhaps others came with grandparents. Some children may have come with aunts, uncles, cousins, or an older brother or sister. Maybe some of you had a Sunday School teacher or a friend who brought you to church. One thing I am pretty sure of -- unless you live close enough to walk to church, someone had to bring you here. I think it is great that someone cared enough about you to bring you to church today. That tells me that they wanted to make sure that you would learn about Jesus and his love for you.

One day, Jesus was teaching his disciples and a large crowd of other people were following him to hear what he was teaching. He was teaching about how God wanted them to have happy homes.

As Jesus was teaching, people started to bring their children to him so that he could touch them. The disciples didn't like these children interrupting Jesus. They told the people to get the children away. When Jesus saw what they were doing, he was very upset. "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them," Jesus said. "The kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these little ones." Then Jesus took the children in his arms and blessed them.

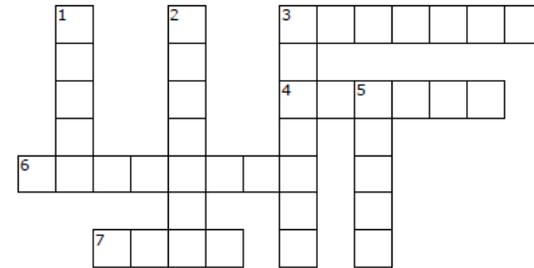
Let us hope that we will always remember that Jesus loved the children and took them into his loving arms. We are thankful for each of you who are here today and thankful that someone loved you enough to bring you.

Dear Father, we love the children just as Jesus loved them and we are thankful that these children have someone who loves them enough to bring them to Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia If we love one another, God lives in us and God's love is perfected in us. Alleluia (1 John 4:12)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 3. Bringing happiness, pleasure, or contentment to someone
- 4. Small in size
- 6. Sons and daughters, young people
- 7. The parts of the body which connect the hands to the shoulders

DOWN

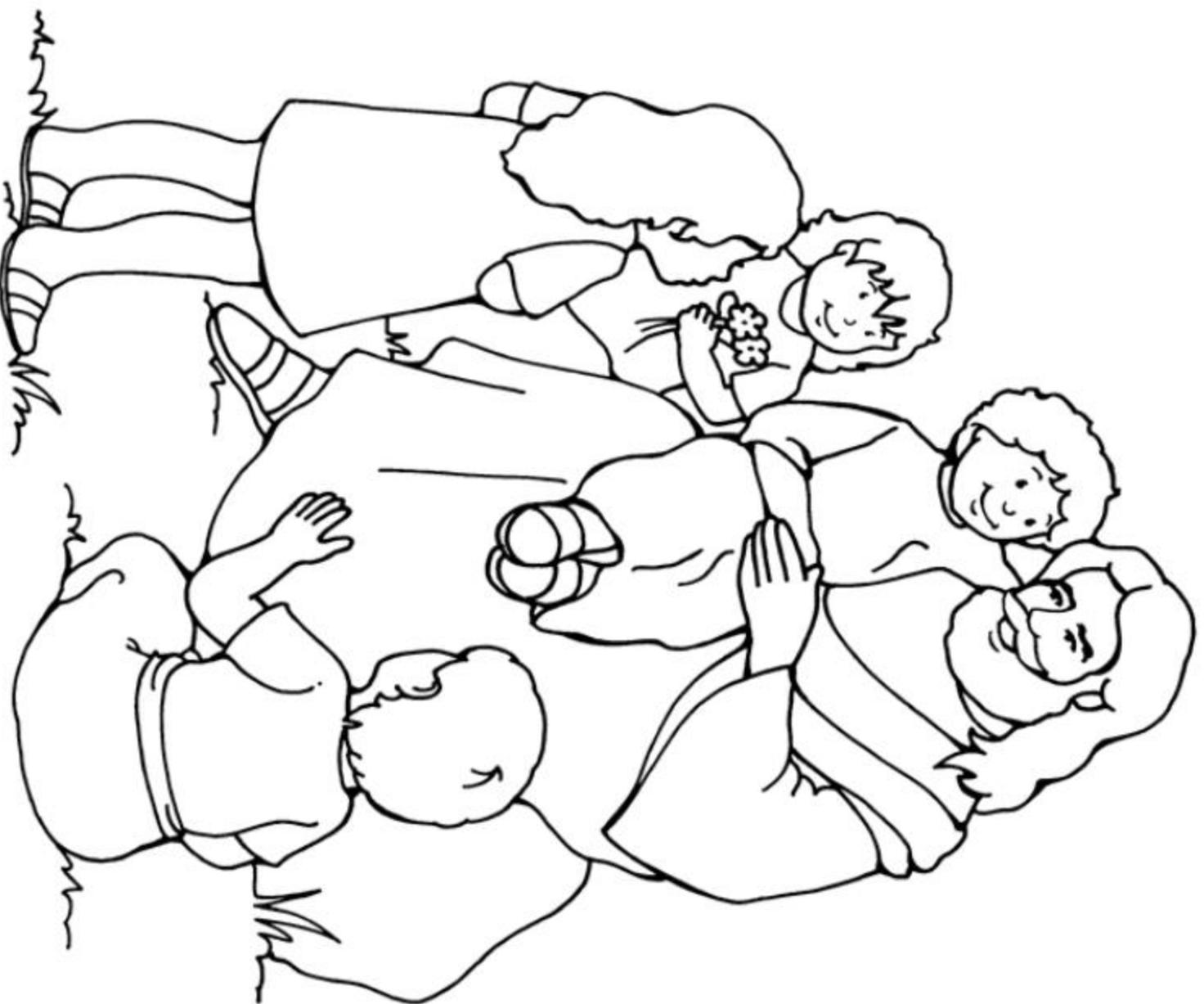
- 1. A statement accepted as fact
- 2. A country or territory ruled by a king or queen
- 3. To be a member of a group, such as a club or organization
- 5. To come in contact with or to feel with your fingers

LITTLE	TOUCH	KINGDOM	BLESSED
CHILDREN	TRUTH	BELONGS	ARMS

BIBLE VERSE BALLOONS: Portions of the Bible verse can be written on small pieces of paper and stuck into a balloon and have the balloons blown up before class time. The children can each be given a balloon to POP, if desired, and share the part of their Bible verse from the balloon. Ask children what Jesus said about children, after sharing all the parts of the Bible verse.

HAND TRACING: Give supplies for children to trace their own hand on a piece of paper. Color the hand and write one word on each finger of the hand for JESUS LOVES ME VERY MUCH! If children want to cut out TWO tracings of their hands, they can tape the hands together and make a "hand" puppet, to tell our story today.

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN



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