

Summer Stories Notes - 7/3/2022

Look Back:

What did you learn from looking at what your budget is currently telling you? What step are you taking with your budget to tell a story of wisdom and generosity?

Look Up:

Read [Matthew 18:1-9](#)

1. What do you think the disciples were trying to find out? How do you think they reacted to Jesus' answer?
2. In verses 5&6, Jesus suddenly changes the topic from "becoming" like a child to "welcoming" a child. Why do you think he did this and what message do you think He was trying to send to His disciples?
3. In verses 6-9, Jesus gives a strong warning and offers extreme measures to be taken to avoid causing little ones to sin. How should people today apply this warning and teaching?
4. Put verse 7 into your own words - what truth was Jesus trying to explain to His disciples and how is this relevant in today's world?

Read [1 John 3:11-18](#)

5. How do these verses help you better understand the love of God and Jesus?
6. What truth about people is reinforced in this passage? How do you typically respond when you hear of evil in the world? What do these verses say should be our response?
7. What have you done recently to show others that you love them through your actions? Where do you need to do a better job of this?

Overall (Discovery Bible Study)

- What do these scriptures say about God?
- What do they say about people?
- How will I apply this to my life?

Look Ahead:

Reflect on how you have, and are currently viewing the children of the world. Pray for God to show you opportunities to welcome, rescue and empower children in your community and around the world.

Leader Notes

Jesus reveals some disturbing truths about people in these verses. He exposes our evil nature, desires for power and our tendency to take advantage of others who are weaker than us. Jesus was clear that we are to take extreme measures to overcome these tendencies and rescue and empower those who are weak, especially children. Focus the discussion on ways that we can overcome our natural tendencies and rely on the power of the Holy Spirit to use us to rescue and empower.