

REFLECTION // DISCUSSION RESOURCE "The Kingdom and Kids" 18 April 2021

Jesus had such a heart for children and young people that He left it impossible for us to think about the Kingdom of Heaven without the place and part the next generations have to play in it.

Read Matthew 6:9-13

What comes to mind when you think about children or young people, and the words "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."?

Read Matthew 19:13-14

How would you describe the attitudes of the churches you've participated in towards children and young people?

How would you describe NewHope's attitude towards children and young people?

Read Psalm 127

What does this Psalm teach us about our attitudes to children, especially our own?

OBSERVATION #1: Be permission giving: "Let the little children come to me..."

Can you think of times when a child's faith has challenged you? How did you respond in that moment?

In what ways do you give the next generation permission to fully pursue Jesus?

OBSERVATION #2: Remove their roadblocks: "...and do not hinder them..."

In what ways can we hinder children from pursuing the Lord in our homes? Our church?

Is there clutter, over-commitment or complications in your home or family that might hinder your children's relationship with Jesus? If so, what can be done to remove these roadblocks?

OBSERVATION #3: Place massive value: "...for to such belongs the Kingdom of Heaven."

In what ways can we recognise the roles of the next generation TODAY, and release them into those roles?

How could we allow your children to take leadership in the spiritual atmosphere of our homes and church?

APPLICATIONS

Think deeply about the children in your life and how you can increase your encouragement and impact upon them.

PRAYER POINTS

Pray for more leaders and volunteers to join our Kids, Youth and Young Adult Teams. Pray by name for those 2-3 people your networks and neighbourhoods who don't yet know Jesus. Pray for our Seed Offering in April, and for miraculous provision for NewHope's mission and vision.