



Our Lord declares in Luke 18:17, "Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein." People had just brought to Him little children, that He would touch them and bless them. The disciples ignorantly stood in the way of these people, rebuking them for bringing such seemingly unimportant matters to the Lord.

Upon seeing His disciples' reaction, Jesus spoke these words. Our Lord not only welcomed these parents with their children, but used them as an example of saving faith. What constitutes faith that saves? A child's faith is sufficient for salvation, according to our text. How often we complicate spiritual matters and turn them into something completely foreign from what the Scriptures teach. The Lord says the kingdom of heaven, or salvation, must be received. The word "received" in the Greek denotes "accepting, or getting hold of something." It pictures taking something as with the hand, readily accepting what is being offered. It speaks of receiving something by way of getting, and becoming a partaker of the benefits. It carries the idea of welcome and reception, as in welcoming freely and joyfully a desired guest.

How does a child receive something? One way is that they believe easily what is difficult for adults to believe. They are not bound by pre-conceived ideas and false teaching. They do not require proof beyond what is reasonably shown to them.

They are not confused with doubts; that is, once they receive something as the truth, they hold to it without worry and second guessing. They believe their parents and teachers or authorities over them.

What a beautiful picture we have here in Luke 18. Our Lord is welcoming, inviting and encouraging children to come to Him. He removes the obstacle of age and maturity. He removes those that would bar them from having access to Him. In verse sixteen, He calls them unto Him, and says, "Suffer [allow] little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Citizens of heaven get there by a child-like trust in the Savior. Who will He save? All who will come to Him in this way: welcoming Him, earnestly and simply trusting Him to do what He says He will do. They are those who, like children, take Him at His Word. They believe implicitly that He is the Savior who will save. Does He not say, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:28-30)? Does He not invite us to come: "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18)?

Right after Christ's welcoming of all those with child-like faith, a wealthy man of status



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approaches Him asking, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He, no doubt, had witnessed the children and our Lord's words. And yet he thinks he must do something to earn salvation. Because he would not receive the simplicity of the gospel, Jesus answers him on his level of reasoning, showing him the impossibility of anyone doing anything that would earn salvation. Just as a child does not have the wherewithal to pay his way and support himself, no one can pay his way into heaven.

We praise the Lord for the simplicity of the gospel. Still the offer stands: "As many as received

him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12-13).

This is the message sent out by these broadcasting ministries twenty-four-hours-a-day. Pray that our Lord would bless His gospel to the saving of many souls. This simple message is often blurred by false teaching today. We must get out the "old, old story of Jesus and His love." Thank you for your continued help in this, the greatest of endeavors.

*Your Servant,
Chris Lamb*

FROM OUR STATION MANAGER

As you know, the "Where God Is Blessing" *Broadcasting Network* is an acrostic taken from each of the *WGIB* call letters. As we share programming with our listeners each day, it is our desire and prayer that the preaching, teaching and music will be used of God to bring spiritual growth and blessing to all those who receive and obey the truth of God's Word.

Although we have no intentions of changing the *WGIB* slogan, I would like to suggest another acrostic that outlines the scope and variety of programming that is heard daily on *WGIB Radio*. The "W" is for the *Worshipful Music* that is interspersed throughout the day as well as during the overnight hours. Our large music library includes hymns and inspirational songs that have been selected with the purpose of exalting Christ. The godly music played on our station musically expresses the truths of God's Word and reinforces the daily preaching and teaching of our broadcasters, assisting the believer in worshiping the Savior.

The "G" is for the *Gospel Message* which saturates our broadcasters' programs daily. The gospel is simply the "good news" of Jesus Christ,

the only hope for the unbeliever and the daily joy of the believer. The preaching of Christ and His substitutionary death on the cross is the prevailing theme of *WGIB*.

The "I" is for the variety of *Inspirational Programs* on *WGIB* that are designed to educate and encourage believers of all ages with practical and helpful resources that are grounded in biblical principles.

The "B" is for the *Biblical Teaching* that systematically instructs the believer through verse-by-verse expositions of the Scriptures presented by many of our broadcasters.

The combination of all these valuable qualities makes *WGIB* a significant and valuable resource for every Christian home.

Thank you for the important role you play as you support this ministry. Please pray with us that God will continue to make *WGIB* a channel of blessing to many in northern Alabama. To God be all the glory for what He is doing through *WGIB*!

*Paul Hancock
WGIB Station Manager*

BROADCASTING THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST 24-HOURS-A-DAY, 7-DAYS-A-WEEK

91.9 BIRMINGHAM
107.9 TUSCALOOSA
106.1 MOODY/ODENVILLE



101.5 COLUMBIANA
106.1 JASPER
92.3 SPRINGVILLE

"FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST: FOR IT IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION TO EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVETH; TO THE JEW FIRST, AND ALSO TO THE GREEK."

ROMANS 1:16