



CHILDLIKE FAITH

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15 May 2022



ENCOURAGEMENT


Therefore we do not
lose heart...
2 Corinthians 4:16



**Romans 8:15 For
you did not receive the
spirit of slavery to fall
back into fear, but you
have received the Spirit
of adoption as sons, by
whom we cry, "Abba!
Father!"**

CHILD LIKENESS





**“A simple,
childlike faith in a
Divine Friend solves
all the problems that
come to us by land
or sea.”**

Helen Keller

1. Childlikeness:

How do Children see God?

“Liewe Jesus”

We can learn so much from Children and we are commanded to →

Matthew 18:1-3 (HCSB) At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, “Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” 2 Then He called a child to Him and had him stand among them. 3 “I assure you,” He said, “unless you are converted and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

‘Converted’ -

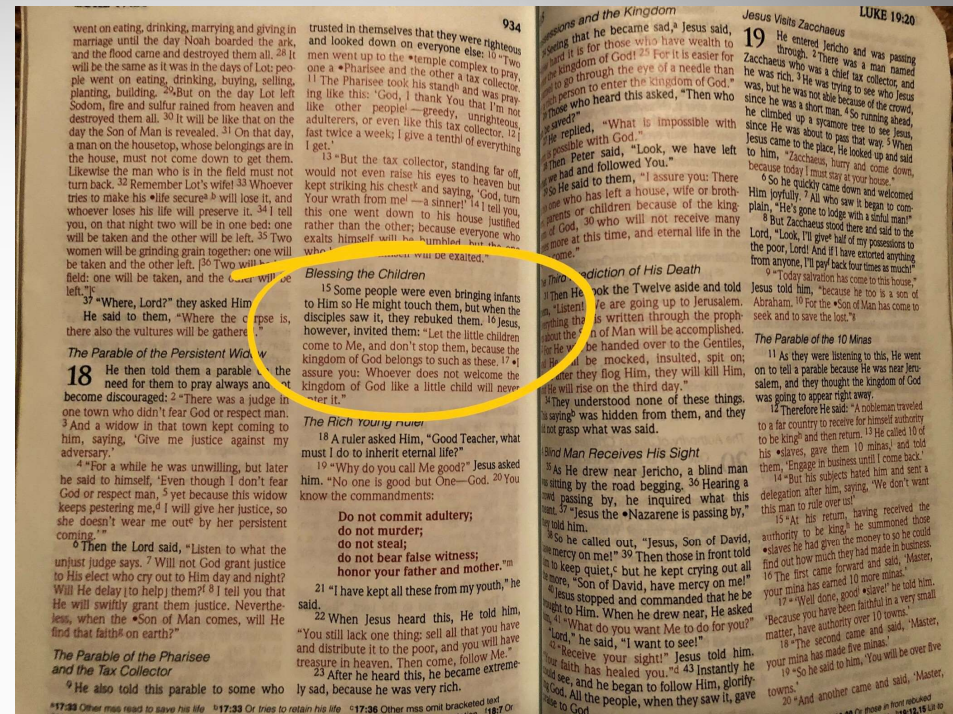
KEY: *strephō* / *stref'-o*

Strengthened from the base of G5157; to twist, that is, **turn around or reverse** - convert, turn (again, back again, self, self about)



Repentance

What is this **CHILDLIKENESS**?



2.2 Jesus helps us:

God gives context

Scripture to interpret Scripture

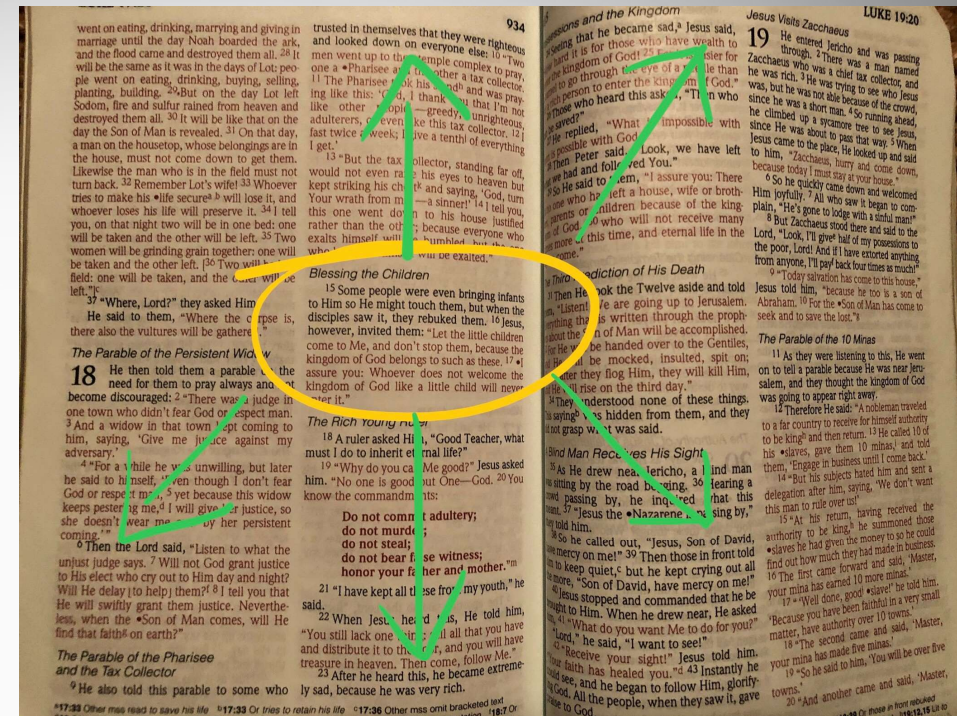
Keys to childlikeness →

How to be converted -

How to enter and stay in

His Kingdom...

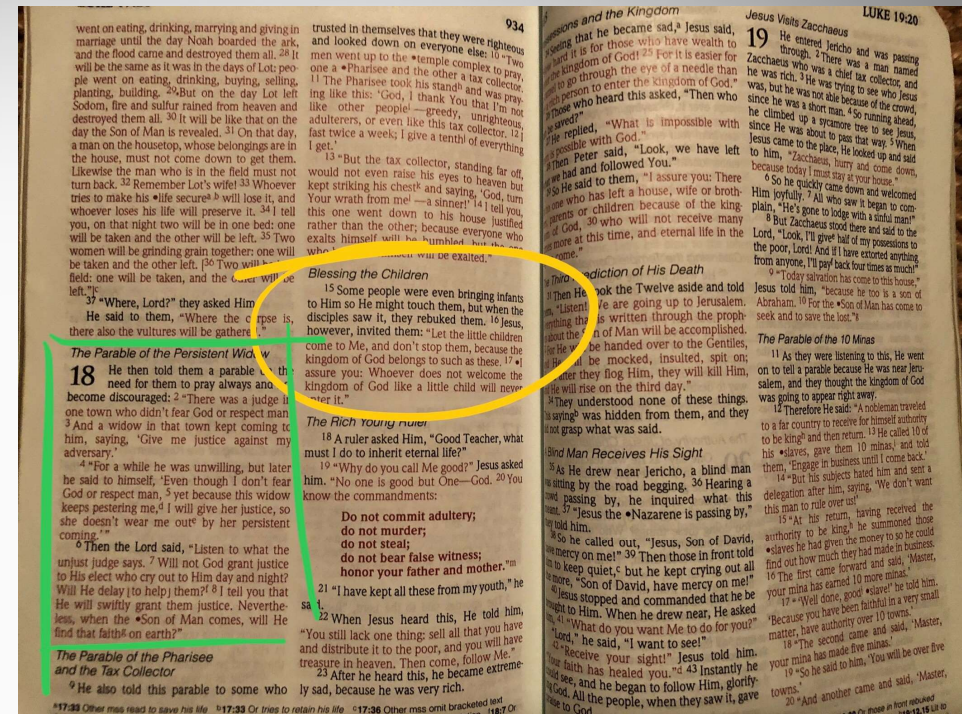
What is this CHILD LIKENESS?



2.3 Persistence and Determination:

The Persistent Widow

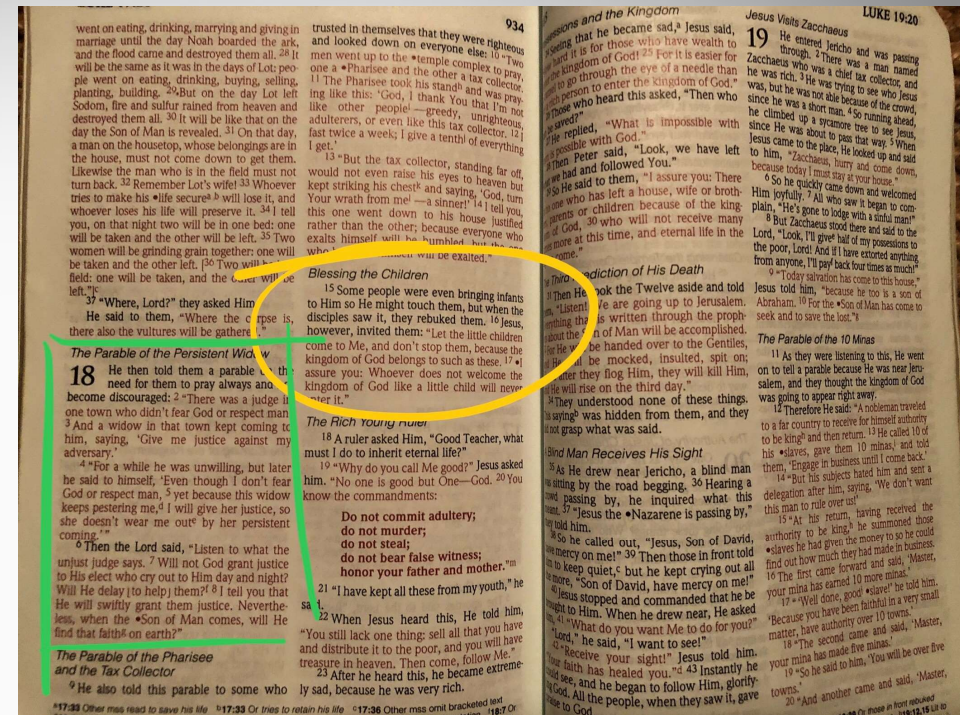
1 He then told them a parable on the need for them to pray always and not become discouraged: 2 “There was a judge in a certain town who didn’t fear God or respect man. 3 And a widow in that town kept coming to him, saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ 4 “For a while he was unwilling, but later he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or respect man, 5 yet because this widow keeps pestering me, I will give her justice, so she doesn’t wear me out by her persistent coming.’” 6 Then the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says.



LUKE 18

7 Will not God grant justice to His elect who cry out to Him day and night? Will He delay to help them?

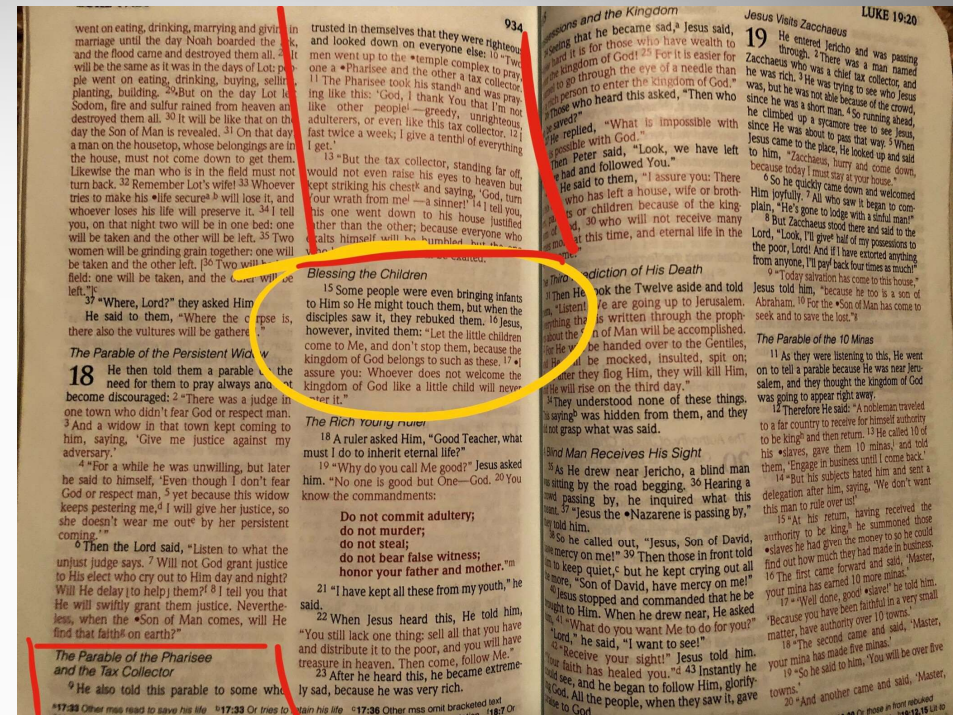
8 I tell you that He will swiftly grant them justice. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find that faith on earth?"



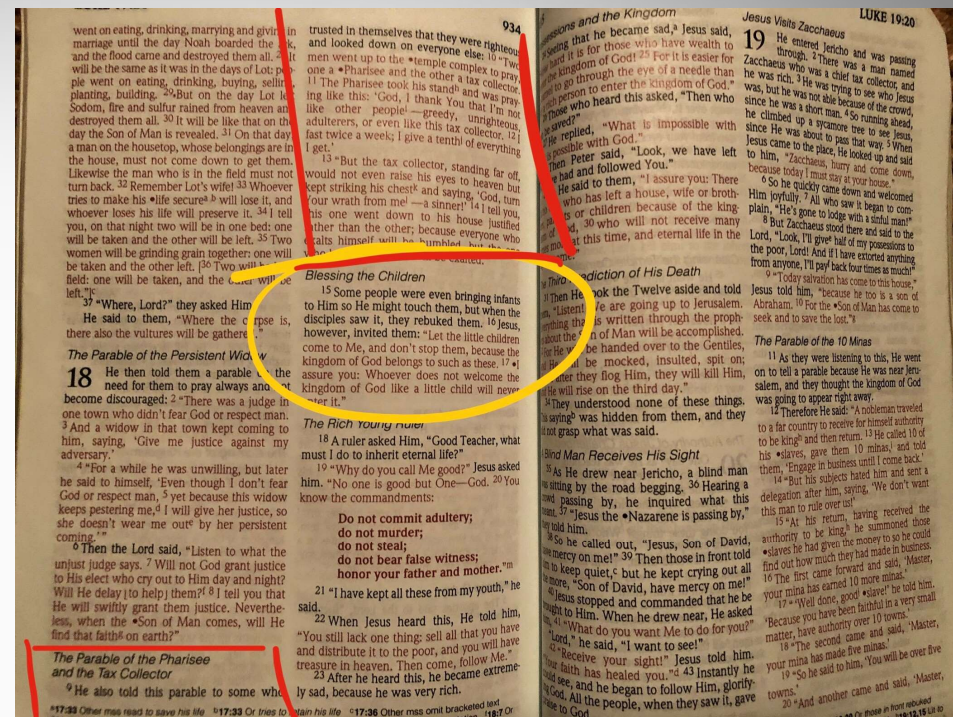
LUKE 18

Parable Pharisee and Tax Collector

LUKE 18



14 I tell you, this one went down to his house justified rather than the other; because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

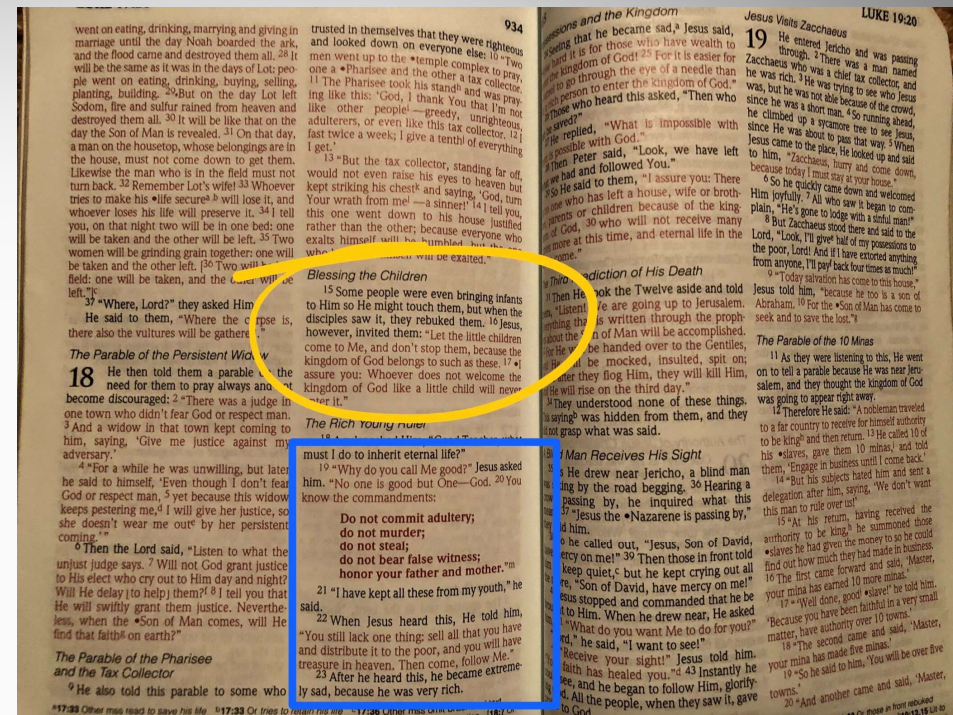


LUKE 18

2.5 Free to Follow:

The Rich Young Ruler

18 A ruler asked Him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 19 “Why do you call Me good?” Jesus asked him. “No one is good but One—God. 20 You know the commandments: Do not commit adultery; do not murder; do not steal; do not bear false witness; honor your father and mother.” 21 “I have kept all these from my youth,” he said. 22 When Jesus heard this, He told him, “You still lack one thing: Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me.” 23 After he heard this, he became extremely sad, because he was very rich.



LUKE 18

Possessions and the Kingdom

went on eating, drinking, marrying and giving in marriage until the day Noah boarded the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸ It will be the same as it is in the days of Lot: people went on eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, building. ²⁹ But on the day Lot went out of Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰ It will be like that on the day the Son of Man is revealed. ³¹ On that day, a man on the housetop, whose belongings are in the house, must not come down to get them. Likewise the man who is in the field must not turn back. ³² Remember Lot's wife! ³³ Whoever tries to make his life secure ³⁴ will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. ³⁴ I tell you, on that night two will be in one bed: one will be taken and the other will be left. ³⁵ Two women will be grinding grain together: one will stay and the other leave. ³⁶ Two will be in the field: one will be taken, and the other will be left." ³⁷

³⁷ "Where, Lord?" they asked Him.

He said to them, "Where the corpse is, there also the vultures will be gathered."

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 He then told them a parable, so that they need not be afraid to pray always and not become discouraged: ² "There was a judge in one town who didn't fear God or respect man. ³ And a widow in that town kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴ For a while he was unwilling, but later he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or respect man, yet because this widow keeps pestering me, I will give her justice, so she doesn't wear me out by her persistent coming.'"

⁵ Then the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁶ Will not God grant justice for His elect who cry out to Him day and night? Will He delay to help them? ⁷ I tell you that He will swiftly grant them justice. Nevertheless, because the Son of Man comes, will He find that faith on earth?"

The Parable of the Persistent and the Tax Collector

⁸ He also told this parable to some who

trusted in themselves that they were righteous and looked down on everyone else. ¹⁰ Two men went up to the temple complex to pray: one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee took his stand and said, "I fast twice a week; I give tithes on all that I produce like this: 'God, I thank You that I'm not like other people—greedy, dishonest, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tithe of everything I get.'"

¹² But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even raise his eyes to heaven but kept striking his breast and saying, "God, turn this wrath from me!—a sinner!" ¹³ I tell you, this one went down to his house justified rather than the other; because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Blessing the Children

¹⁴ Some people were even bringing infants to Him so He might touch them, but when the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. ¹⁵ Jesus, however, invited them: "Let the little children come to Me, and don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁶ I assure you, whoever does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

The Rich Young Man

¹⁷ A ruler asked Him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ "Why do you call Me good?" Jesus asked him. "No one is good but One—God. ¹⁹ You know the commandments:

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²¹ "I have kept all of these from my youth," he said.

²² When Jesus heard this, He told him, "You still lack one thing: sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Come, follow Me." ²³ After he heard this, he became extremely sad, because he was very rich.

The Prediction of His Death

²⁴ Then Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "Listen! He are going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be accomplished. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. He will be mocked, insulted, spit on, and flogged. They will kill Him, but after three days He will rise again on the third day."

²⁶ They understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they do not grasp what was said.

Blind Man Receives His Sight

²⁷ As He drew near Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the road begging. ²⁸ Hearing a man calling him, he inquired what his name was. Jesus said the Nazarene is passing by."

²⁹ He was called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁰ Then those in front told him to keep quiet, but he kept crying out to answer, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³¹ Jesus stopped and commanded that he be brought to Him. When he drew near, He asked him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" ³² "Lord," he said, "I want to see!" ³³ "Receive your sight!" Jesus told him. His eyes had been healed. ³⁴ He instantly he followed Him, and he began to follow Him, glorifying Him. ³⁵ At that time, when they saw it, gave

9 Jesus Visits Zacchaeus

9 He entered Jericho and was passing through. ² There was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. ³ He was trying to see Jesus now, but he was too short because of the crowd. ⁴ So he climbed up a sycamore tree to see Jesus, because he had heard that Jesus was passing that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down. I have found you." ⁶ So he climbed down and said to him, "My joy! All who saw it began to cry. He's gone to lodge with a sinner!" ⁷ But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Lord, I'll give half of my possessions to the poor. Let me and I have entered anyone from now on. I'll pay back four times as much!" ¹⁰ "Today salvation has come to this house," He told him, "because he is a son of Abraham." ¹¹ For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost."

The Parable of the Ten Minas

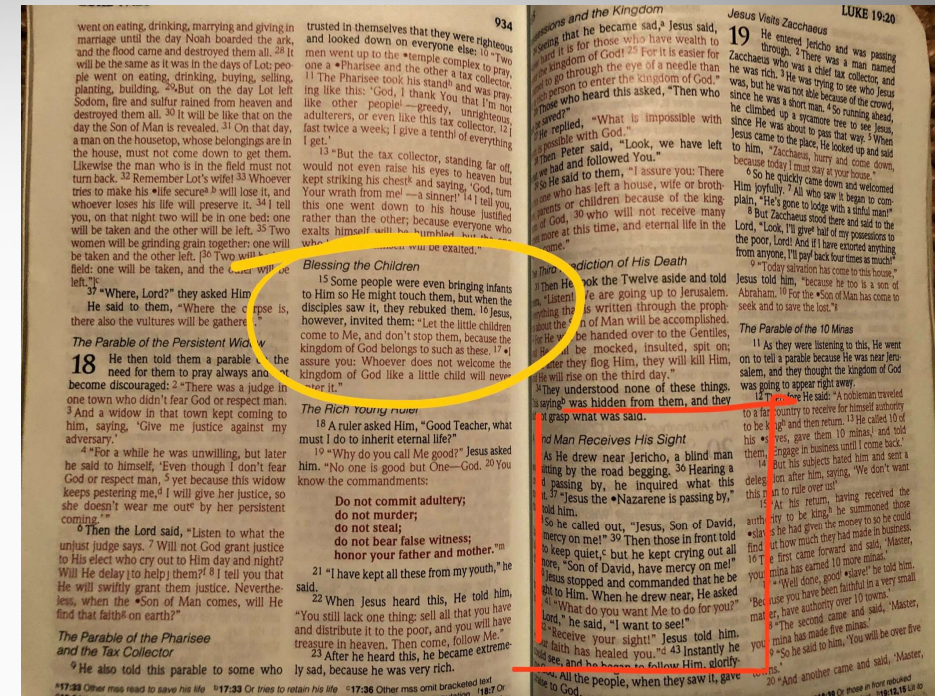
¹² As they were listening to this, He went on to tell a parable because He was near Jerusalem, and they thought the kingdom of God was going to appear right away.

¹³ Therefore He said: "A nobleman traveled to a far country to receive honors and authority to be king—and then return. ¹⁴ He called 10 of his slaves and then returned. ¹⁵ He called 10 of them and told them, 'I am going out. I will be away for a long time. ¹⁶ Engage in business until I come back.' ¹⁷ But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We don't want this man to rule over us.' ¹⁸ At his return, having received the authority to be king, he summoned those slaves he had given the money to be his business partners and said to them, 'I am going to call you in now how much they had made in business.' ¹⁹ The first came forward and said, 'Master, my mina has earned 10 more minas.' ²⁰ 'Well done, good slave!' he told him. 'Because you have been faithful in a very small matter, have authority over 10 towns.' ²¹ The second came and said, 'Master, my mina has made five minas.' ²² 'So he said to him, 'You will be over five towns.' ²³ And another came and said, 'Master, I was afraid of you and hid my mina in the ground. Here it is, with interest.' ²⁴ 'You wicked slave! I knew you were afraid of me, so you hid my mina in the ground. Why didn't you put it in the bank, and I could have earned interest?' ²⁵ He said to him, 'You will be cast out, and your mina will be given to the one who has 10 minas.' ²⁶ And he said to his slaves, 'I am going to call you in now how much they had made in business.' ²⁷ The first came forward and said, 'Master, my mina has earned 10 more minas.' ²⁸ 'Well done, good slave!' he told him. 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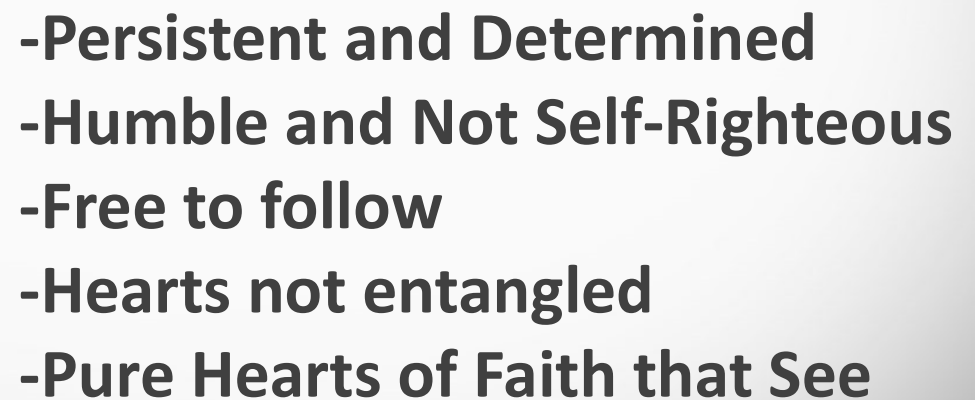
A Blind Man Receives His Sight

39 Then those in front told him to keep quiet, but he kept crying out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 40 Jesus stopped and commanded that he be brought to Him. When he drew near, He asked him, 41 "What do you want Me to do for you?" "Lord," he said, "I want to see!" 42 "Receive your sight!" Jesus told him. "Your faith has healed you." 43 Instantly he could see, and he began to follow Him, glorifying God. All the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.



Matthew 18:3 “I assure you,” He said, “unless you are converted and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Luke 18:17 I assure you: Whoever does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”





“I realized that my life was
to be one of simple,
childlike faith, and that my
part was to trust, not to
do. I was to trust in Him
and He would work in me
to do His good pleasure.
From that time my life was
different.”

Charles Studd

PRAYER





CHILD LIKENESS

See you next week