

AUDREY MACK - GOTELL.NET



JUST
**CHILDLIKE
FAITH**



Have you asked yourself, “Why have I lost the joy I had when I got saved?” Do you struggle to stay in the Word? Do the promises of God seem unattainable to you? Has it been difficult for you to stand in faith? You would be surprised how all of these relate!

I often teach on faith and the importance of remaining simple. Today, I would like to take it a step further and bring to light another name for the ‘simplicity of faith.’ This is also known as childlikeness. Jesus mentions it in ***Luke 18:17. “Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” ESV***

The definition of the word childlikeness is: “the qualities, characteristics, or behaviors that are typical of a child, especially in a positive or endearing way. It suggests innocence, trust, simplicity, and wonder, often associated with childhood but that can also be found in adults.”

One of the greatest compliments I can receive is when someone tells me that their children love me and enjoy watching and listening to my teachings. I know then, that I have succeeded in communicating the Gospel with simplicity and authenticity.

In **Matthew 19:14**, Jesus says, ***“Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.”*** How do we receive the Kingdom of Heaven like little children. We have to humble ourselves like a child, fully trusting God with a heart that says, “If you said it, it must be true”!

Children are known for their audacious requests, authentic laughter, innocence, and abandoned trust. If a child has grown up in a healthy environment, he knows that he can safely and boldly approach his parents with his requests, and whatever daddy says is good as gold. Upon a simple promise from daddy, he will simply believe and therefore, start thinking, talking, and acting like it is so.

Let me tell you about a little boy named Philip.

He is outside playing in front of his house, when suddenly a group of neighborhood kids arrive on their brand new bikes. “Hey Philip, Are you coming with us?” I can’t, he replied, I don’t have a bicycle. Philip felt very sheepish and excluded as the other boys shouted, “Too bad, see you later!”

What do you think little Philip is going to do? That six-year-old boy is going to walk back inside the house and tug on his daddy’s arm, “Daddy, all my friends have a bicycle and I don’t. Can I have a bicycle? Will you please get me a bike? Please, please, please, daddy?”

Philip’s father is not going to scold the boy for asking, nor will he tell him to grow up and stop bothering him. Instead, Philip’s father will smile, knowing his son's birthday is just around the corner.





With faith comes unrestrained joy. Philip cannot stop but skip around, rejoice, laugh and sing. ***You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is the fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forever more. Psalm 16:11***

From that moment forward, all Philip can think about is the new bike. He lies down at night imagining himself riding the bike through the neighborhood, he sees himself shining the wheels and going to run errands for mommy on his brand new bike. ***For as he thinks within himself, so is he. Proverbs 23:7(a)TLV***

The next day at school, he cannot wait to tell the teacher he has a bicycle. Some other classmates might accuse him of lying because they saw him walk to school but Philip cannot stop talking about it and tell everybody he has a bicycle and that it is only a matter of time until they see him with it.

...For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks. Luke 6:45 (b) ESV

He feels a surge of delight knowing he has already bought Philip a bicycle, but he nods to Philip with a smile and a YES, without any further explanations. Did you know that through Jesus Christ, Father has already purchased everything and He is just waiting for you to ask? ***As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness... 2 Peter 1:3(a)***

Just from a simple nod, Philip knows he can trust his dad, and in his little heart, it is as if he already has it. In ***Mark 11:24*** Jesus clearly says: ***“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” ESV***

Did you know that a simple word from Father God is enough to trigger our faith. ***Faith (childlike trust) comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Romans 10:17***



After school, he goes straight into the garage to clean up a space and make room for the new bike. ***Thus, faith by itself, unaccompanied by actions, is dead. James 2:17 CJB***

Philip does not do these to manipulate or get his way, but rather as expressions of a simple and childlike trust. As adults, we must learn to return to the state of being like a child in the presence of God. He wants us to walk with the trust of a child, embracing the simplicity of enjoying time with the Father, knowing He loves us. With Him, we can be ourselves and never be afraid to ask. It's about simply trusting our Heavenly Father and saying, "Yes, and amen," to His promises.