

Children's Ministry

THIRD
FOURTH

September 12th || Matthew 19:1-15

Main Point: **You don't have to wait for God to use you!**

(Try to repeat the main point several times.)

Read Matthew 19:13-15 and ask:

1. Why would people want Jesus to lay hands on their children and pray for them?
2. Why would the disciples be offended by this?
3. Why did Jesus rebuke the disciples?
4. How is the kingdom of heaven made available to children?

Read 1 Timothy 4:12 and ask:

1. Why would some people look down on you for being young?
2. How can you be an example to believers?
3. When can you start being an example?
4. Is this list different than anything God would desire from any of His children?

Have the kids name out things that they cannot do that adults can do. There are a lot of responsibilities that children are protected from that adults have to do. Sometimes, it can make children think they can't serve God until they get older. This is not true! Paul encouraged Timothy that he could serve Jesus even though he was younger than other people. In fact, he could be an example to them, by his faithfulness at a young age.

Now, rather than later

Using the stack of chairs in the room, show the kids that it is easier to do something if you start early. Tell the children that you need to move the chairs from one side of the room to the other. Take one chair off the stack, and ask a child to move it over to the other side of the room. (Bring the chair back over by the stack.) Make a short stack of two chairs. Ask a student to move the stack of two chairs. Was that easier, or harder? Ask the kids, which is easier, to move the chairs one at a time, or to try to move them all at once, when they are a giant stack?

It can be tempting for a young person to think they will serve God when they get older, but not think about serving Him now. However, it will be harder to serve Jesus later, if you are not serving Him already. You may have to serve in some different ways, but no matter what age you are, God allows you to encourage others with your example!

- Ask the kids:
1. How can I be an example to other believers?
 2. How could God use my young age to His glory?

Driving it

home...



"Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven."—Matthew 18:3

Since the gospel is about what Jesus has done, and is not about what we have done, it doesn't matter what age you are. The gospel can be understood by children, therefore, children can be saved. In fact, Jesus says the humility that children show is a great example of how people need to be so that they see their sin and ask Jesus for forgiveness!