

# Let the Little Children come to me (Luke 18, 15-17)



**Raising  
Christian  
kids in  
today's  
world. Is it  
possible?**



Life  
Gifts  
Purpose



Why do plants grow?



Why do birds fly and sing?







# The boy Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2, 41-52)



*“Why have you done this to us?”*

*“Why are you searching for me? I am where I am supposed to be”*

They did not understand what he was saying to them



# Nurturing talent: Different strokes for different folks

Key is to figure out what works best for each student



Do we recognize the  
unique life, gifts and  
purpose that are  
growing within our child?

Do we nourish it? Or do  
we stifle it?

What expectations,  
dreams or hopes do we  
need to die to?



# What do we want for our children?

What do our children really want or need from us?



# The Top 10 things children really want their parents to do with them

1. Come into my bedroom at night, tuck me in and sing me a song. Also tell me stories about when you were little
2. Give me hugs and kisses and sit and talk with me privately
3. Spend quality time just with me, not with my brothers and sisters around
4. Give me nutritious food so I can grow up healthy
5. At dinner talk about what we could do together on the weekend
6. At night talk to me about anything, love, school, family etc
7. Let me play outside a lot.
8. Cuddle under a blanket and watch our favorite TV show together
9. Discipline me, it makes me feel you care
10. Leave special message in my desk or lunch bag



Let the little children come to me  
Matthew 19-14







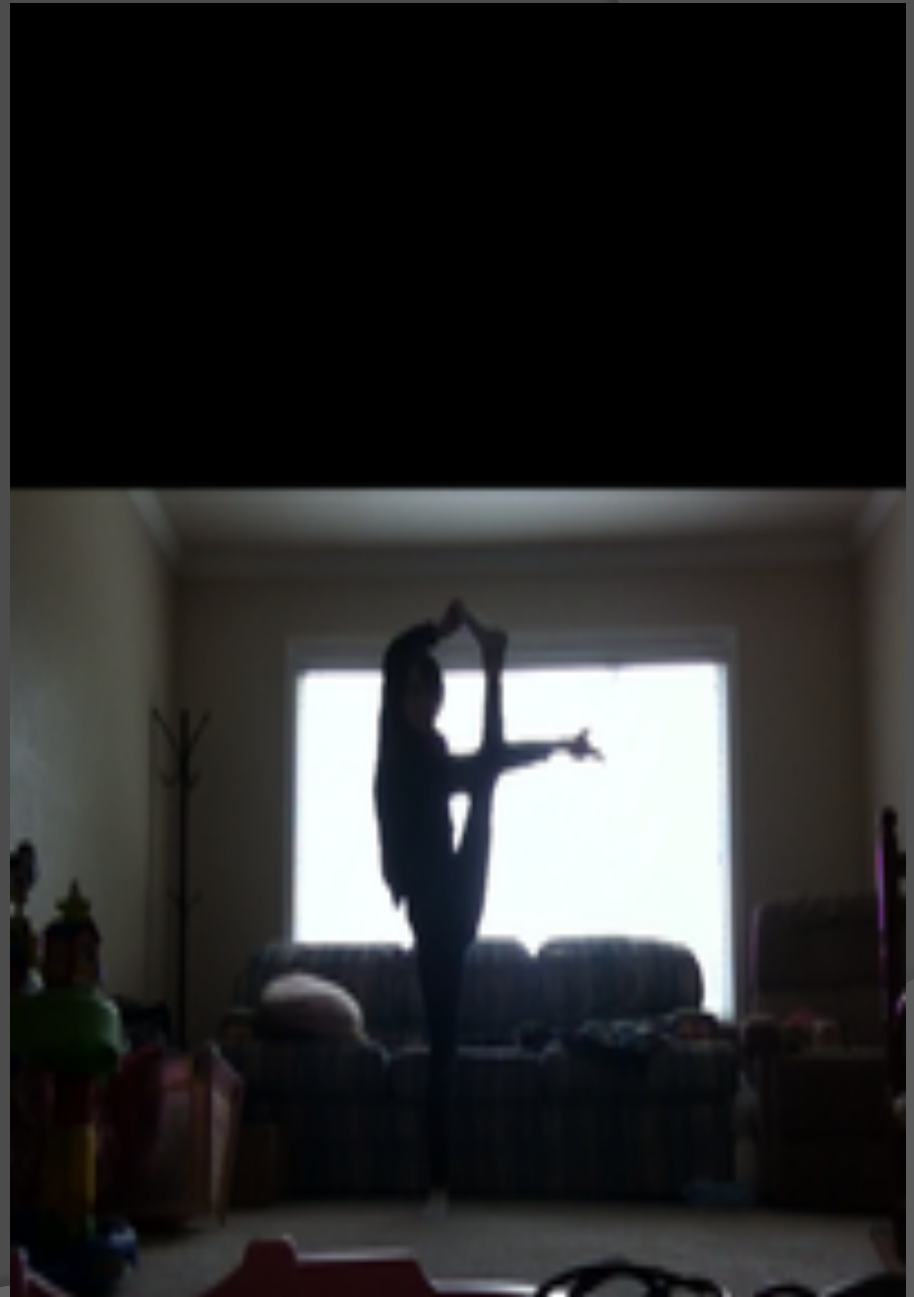
Do we give our children  
what they most need?

Do I need to change  
anything in my life and  
priorities?



Our children do not  
belong to us

We are merely stewards



# The boy Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2, 41-52)



He returned with them and  
was obedient to them

Jesus grew in wisdom and  
stature, and in favour  
before God and Man

# Grow in favour before

## God

Man and no God  
Man and maybe God  
Man and God

God and no Man  
God and maybe man  
God and Man

## Man

Agnostic  
Seeker  
Sunday Catholic

Religious hermit  
Good man/Church worker  
Disciple in the world



# “Try” (Colbie Caillat, 2014)

Oooh  
Oooh

Put your make-up on  
Get your nails done  
Curl your hair  
Run the extra mile  
Keep it slim so they like you, do they like you?

Get your sexy on  
Don't be shy, girl  
Take it off  
This is what you want, to belong, so they like you  
Do you like you?

You don't have to try so hard  
You don't have to, give it all away  
You just have to get up, get up, get up, get up  
You don't have to change a single thing

You don't have to try, try, try, try  
You don't have to try, try, try, try  
You don't have to try, try, try, try  
You don't have to try  
Yooou don't have to try

Oooh  
Oooh

Get your shopping on, at the mall, max your credit cards  
You don't have to choose, buy it all, so they like you  
Do they like you?

Wait a second,  
Why, should you care, what they think of you  
When you're all alone, by yourself, do you like you?  
Do you like you?

You don't have to try so hard  
You don't have to, give it all away  
You just have to get up, get up, get up, get up  
You don't have to change a single thing

You don't have to try so hard  
You don't have to bend until you break  
You just have to get up, get up, get up, get up  
You don't have to change a single thing

You don't have to try, try, try, try  
You don't have to try, try, try, try  
You don't have to try, try, try, try  
You don't have to try  
Yooou don't have to try

Oooh  
Oooh

Take your make-up off  
Let your hair down  
Take a breath  
Look into the mirror, at yourself  
Don't you like you?  
Cause I like you

# On Children

by Kahlil Gibran

Your children are not your children.  
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.  
They come through you but not from you,  
And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts.  
For they have their own thoughts.  
You may house their bodies but not their souls,  
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,  
which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.  
You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.  
For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.  
The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,  
and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.  
Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;  
For even as He loves the arrow that flies,  
so He loves also the bow that is stable.





What do I need to do more of or less of to help my child “grow in stature before God and Man”?

Am I willing to be the “stable bow” in the hands of the “Archer”?

Can I trust God more with my child?