



“And He Took the Children in His Arms”

Jesus shows us how to love children.

The Bible passage this morning is...

Mark 10.13-16

1. **JESUS ADVOCATED FOR CHILDREN.**

To ‘*advocate*’ means to give a voice to those who have no voice.

In Jesus’ day, children’s greatest advocates were their mothers, who did not have much of a voice either.

The process of advocacy follows the pattern below:

- First you put yourself in their place,
- Then imagine what they are going through,
- Then you consider what they need,
- Then you explore possible solutions,
- Then you give voice and energy toward those solutions.

Do children of the world still need advocates?

The number of children under five years old who die each year

from relatively easily prevented diseases equals all the children under five east of the Mississippi River in the U.S.

Two reputable organizations helping children today are ***Samaritan’s Purse*** (www.samaritanspurse.org) and ***Compassion International*** (www.compassion.com).

Has Jesus’ voice been silenced?

*“Big people must speak
for little people.”*

2. **JESUS WAS PRESENT WITH THE CHILDREN.**

We must carve out PHYSICAL, TEMPORAL and EMOTIONAL space for children.

2. **JESUS BLESSED THE CHILDREN** (next week)

Whose children are they, anyway? A story from Rwanda...