

Lesson 12

Ministering to Children

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VIDEO OUTLINE

Note: All scriptures used in this lesson are quoted from the *New King James Version*.

- I. When your kids are sick, your heart wishes you could take it for them. You wish you could take the pain. You've tapped into the heart of God because that's exactly what Jesus did for you. That's exactly what Jesus did for your kids. He has taken it for them.
 - A. Jesus had the same heartache for you and for your children that you have for your child or for children around you. He was moved to action, and He redeemed them.

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 10:10

- B. Now we start to look at our children with hope and with power. We start to look at our children expecting, drawing out, and drawing in the power of God into our children because we know Jesus already did the work.

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

John 19:30

- C. Start declaring what life will be because they're healed. Start to proclaim, confess, touch, minister, and love on your kids and other people's kids with confidence and authority. You're not aching, wishing, or wondering if God can heal them. You know God already has.
- II. When we minister to children, we put these foundations of truth within our hearts because if we don't, the enemy will try to bring other lies.

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

1 John 3:1-2

- A. Sometimes we forget that God is a father. You are a child of God, so when you understand how God sees you, then you can take that same revelation and say, “This is how God sees my child.”
 - B. You are a steward. You’ve been entrusted with these children, but God is their Father.
 - C. God has a way to show you that His love for them knows exactly where they are, what they need, and how to train, raise, comfort, bless, and encourage them.
 - D. We can tap into God’s wisdom and draw it down. We can ask, “Lord, how do I do this?” When we make mistakes, we can say, “Lord, teach me.”
 - E. We are God’s children now. You’re not just going to be God’s child in heaven. His heart for you right now is so powerful.
- III. Practical tip number one: Don’t look down on the person you’re ministering to, thinking, *You’ve got a little baby Jesus and a little Holy Spirit, so you’re not going to understand what I’m doing.* When a child gets saved, they get the fullness of the might and power of the Holy Spirit.
- A. If you’re ministering to a child, ask them if they have ever received Jesus into their heart. Explain that, and don’t use too many spiritual words. They may have the same level of the Spirit of God inside them, but intellectually, don’t talk to them like an adult.
 - B. When someone comes up to get prayed for, ask the parents if they know if the child has received Jesus. Then say, “You know, because you have Jesus in your heart, the Healer lives inside of you.”
- IV. Practical tip number two: Literally, get down on their level. I might get down on my knees. Don’t worry about what other people are thinking about you. If you’re ministering to somebody, minister to them.
- A. Kids respond so well when you come with a joy and excitement. Stir up that expectancy within them.

- B. What's so amazing about children is that most of the time they just trust adults.
- V. Practical tip number three: Don't be afraid to make positive, faith-filled declarations. Start declaring what will be. I declare it with authority because I know that what I'm praying will work.
- VI. Practical tip number four: If I'm going to lay hands, I'll ask the mom and dad if it is okay.
 - A. Say to the child, "You know, because you have Jesus inside of you, you have power in your hands. You have power in your heart to believe God, so I want you to put your hand on it too, and we're going to pray together. Not just me. You have Jesus inside of you, so we're going to tell this to go, in Jesus' name."
 - B. We rebuke the sickness. I don't get long and wordy, but I will teach them how to pray over their own bodies while I am praying for them.
 - C. What you're doing is training them so if something tries to come back, if the enemy tries to put something else on them, you just demonstrated how to lay their hands on their own bodies and rebuke sickness themselves.
- VII. Practical tip number five: If the parents are not coming in faith, have compassion on these parents. Don't just look at them and say, "You know, you just need to have more faith."
 - A. If I know I'm going to be ministering to parents of children or things like that, I always try to take some teaching material with me.
 - B. I'm going to need to minister truth to them so that their hearts are encouraged.
 - C. The enemy is trying to beat them up, so, at that moment, I'll minister to them. I'll pray over them.
 - D. I agree with them that they're speaking life over this child.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 18:21

- E. They're speaking a future and a hope over their child. And the lies of the enemy and the things the doctors are saying, we rebuke them in the name of Jesus.

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

VIII. Practical tip number six: Teach them how to resist the devil when he comes knocking.

- A. Don't immediately declare over children what they have. When symptoms try to come on, I say, "The devil is just trying to see if we want to accept sickness, but we're not going to receive that, are we?"
- B. Don't be afraid to pray multiple times. If something tries to come back, go after it again. The enemy is just trying. He's trying to wear you down. He's trying to wear your children down. But we have authority in Jesus, so don't be afraid to make bold, faith-filled declarations.

Have a testimony?

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