



CHILDREN ARE IMPORTANT TO GOD

■ Key Scripture

Luke 18:16

“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them.”

■ Materials Needed

- Empty plastic soda or water bottle
- Balloon
- Baking soda
- Vinegar

■ Preparation

Pour $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vinegar into the bottle.

Put about 2 tablespoons of baking soda into the balloon (a funnel may help). Keep the balloon separate from the bottle until called for in the lesson.



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■ Presentation

Are children important to God? *(Allow responses.)* **Yes, they are! The Bible says everyone has sinned and everyone needs to have his sins forgiven. That means children, teenagers, and adults.**

Luke 18:16 tells us what Jesus said about children. *(Read the verse from your Bible.)* **Jesus thinks you are very important. There are many other verses that say the same thing. In this verse, adults were coming to Jesus, and mothers brought their children to see Jesus. The disciples stopped the moms and said Jesus didn't have time for them.**

Is that what Jesus said? NO! He said, "Let them come." **Jesus knew that children believe His Word. He even said that adults should become like children. Isn't that great?**

If children can have their sins forgiven, they should also obey the Bible and serve Jesus. Can you think of some ways children can serve Jesus? *(Allow responses.)* **They can pray, give offerings, show love by doing good deeds for others, and many other things. It doesn't matter who you are, you can serve Jesus.**

Children are like this balloon. When you look at it, it doesn't look like it can do anything. That's what some people think about children. But when they are filled with the love of Jesus, they can serve Him.

This bottle is going to represent Jesus. Look what happens when the balloon is connected to the bottle. *(Put the balloon on the bottle carefully, having the portion with the baking soda hang over the side of the bottle, as shown. Then lift the balloon so the baking soda can fall into the bottle.)*

Children are important, and they can serve God! When you give to BGMC, you are letting Jesus work in you to do big things!

