

How can we maintain the childlike innocence and earn the victory that Christ has planned for us when entrapment and evil lurk around us just as during the time of Jesus? How do you ask a grown person whose lifestyle is wrapped around the myriad of duties, obligations, problems and burdens to be "child-like"? If only it were that easy;

Even a child can be cunning sometimes. He or she may know when and what to cry for, or to whom to run to, and from whom to get something. Adults can be like that too. We often know when and how to get things our way. However, Jesus does not refer to such traits of human nature, present in each of us. Instead, he refers to a 'reliance' on him and on cultivating a sincere relationship with him, just as a child is reliant on his or her parents. It is about having a childlike innocence that calls us to seek the Father in all that we do and to learn to trust Him in all things.

Can we sincerely say we trust and are reliant on the Lord? James in his letter, speaks about what we go through when we don't place our faith and trust in God. Often, we tend to run in circles, sometimes in great turmoil without relying on God. The psalmist reminds us that it is the Lord who upholds our lives. Yet, in the hustle and bustle of life, we rather run into the unsure and unsteady arms of the world than toward the sure and certain embrace of the Father. The truth is simply that we do not need to jostle and wrestle with the world when we are reliant on Him.

Let us relook at our relationship with God today. Can we, as a little child would, always return to the Father and sit at His feet daily, and learn to rely and trust him at all times? •

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Wis. 2: 12, 17-20; Ps. 53: 3-6, 8; Jm. 3: 16 – 4:3; Mk. 9: 30-37.



HOPE: BELIEVE, LIVE AND GIVE

MONTHLY THEME:

ALL THE EARTH
PROCLAIMS THE LORD

Be Like These Little Ones

As the disciples were arguing as to who among them was the greatest, Jesus sets them up for a big disappointment. He calls them instead to humble service and to resemble little children. Once again, he also speaks to each of us as well. But, how can we become like little children when we are faced daily with "the things of the world" and all the temptations that lie-in-wait?