

Worksheet on Attributes of Childlike Faith



Matthew 18:3-4 King James Version (KJV)

3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

4 Whosoever, therefore, shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

What is childlike faith

In a Christian context, childlike faith refers to a type of faith that is characterized by trust, humility, simplicity, and wonder. Childlike faith is an approach to belief and relationship with God that is marked by a lack of skepticism, an open-mindedness, and a willingness to believe and obey. It is often compared to that of a child's trust and belief in their parents. This type of faith is seen as pure and unadulterated by the cynicism and skepticism that often comes with age and life experience. In the Bible, Jesus teaches that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven, one must become like a child (Matthew 18:3).

Characteristics of child-like faith

- **Trust:** Childlike faith is characterized by an unwavering trust in God and a belief that He is good and can be trusted.
- **Humility:** Childlike faith is marked by a humble attitude, recognizing that God is sovereign and we are dependent on Him.
- **Simplicity:** Childlike faith is not complicated or overly intellectualized, but rather is marked by a simple and straightforward belief in God and His Word.
- **Wonder:** Childlike faith is characterized by a sense of awe and wonder at God's creation and His presence in the world.
- **Obedience:** Childlike faith is characterized by a willingness to obey God and follow His commands, even when it is difficult or not fully understood.
- **Open-mindedness:** Childlike faith is characterized by an openness to new experiences and a willingness to learn and grow in one's relationship with God.
- **Unconditional Love:** Childlike faith is characterized by unconditional love for God and others, regardless of their actions or behavior.
- **Acceptance:** Childlike faith is characterized by acceptance of God's will and plan for one's life, even if it is difficult to understand or accept.
- **Confidence:** Childlike faith is characterized by confidence in the promises of God and the assurance that He will always be with us.
- Childlike Faith is not naive, but rather it's the ability to believe even if things don't make sense and to trust God no matter what the circumstances.

What other characteristics does child-like faith embody?

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Bible verses to support childlike faith

Matthew 18:3 - "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

John 3:3 - Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Matthew 11:25 - "At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children."

Isaiah 11:6 - "The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them."

What do you think these verses mean?

Reflection questions

The worksheet includes reflection questions that are designed to help readers think about how they can cultivate childlike faith in their own life. These questions are meant to be thought-provoking and encourage readers to take a deeper look at their faith journey.

1. How does the idea of childlike faith align with your understanding of faith and belief in God?
2. In what ways do you currently possess childlike faith? In what areas do you need to grow?
3. Reflect on a time in your life when you had a particularly strong sense of childlike faith. What made it so strong?
4. How can you cultivate a sense of trust and humility in your relationship with God?
5. What are the things in your life that make it difficult to maintain childlike faith? How can you address them?
6. In what ways has your faith become more complicated or intellectualized over time? How can you simplify it?
7. How can you cultivate a sense of wonder and awe in your relationship with God?
8. Reflect on a time when you struggled to obey God. What were the reasons for your struggle?
9. What are the things in your life that have pulled you away from childlike faith? How can you address them?
10. In what ways can you become more open-minded and willing to learn in your relationship with God?
11. How can you cultivate unconditional love for God and others in your life?
12. How can you develop confidence in the promises of God and the assurance that He will always be with you?

14. What are the things that distract you from developing childlike faith? How can you remove them from your life?

This section is designed to help readers understand and pursue childlike faith in their lives. One of the ways to do this is by providing practical steps that readers can take to cultivate childlike faith. These steps are meant to be actionable and easily implementable in one's daily life.

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Journaling or Note-taking

The worksheet includes a section for note-taking or journaling about their reflection and understanding of the childlike faith attributes. This section is intended to be a space where the users can record their thoughts, insights, and understanding as they work through the worksheet.

By taking notes or journaling, users can review their progress and understand how they can continue to develop childlike faith in their life. This section is designed to help them reflect on their progress and see where they have grown and where they need to continue to work on.

10. "The Hiding Place" by Corrie ten Boom
11. "The Ragamuffin Gospel" by Brennan Manning
12. "The Way of the Heart: Connecting with God Through Prayer, Wisdom, and Silence" by Henri J. M. Nouwen
13. Podcast: "Revive Our Hearts" with Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth
14. Podcast: "Ask Pastor John" by John Piper

These resources can help readers to deepen their understanding of childlike faith and learn more about how to cultivate it in their own lives through biblical teaching, real-life examples, and personal accounts.