



# Being with Jesus:

## A Devotional From the Book of Mark

Week 5  
The Mighty Widow

Day 5

### Scripture

“They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the road?’ But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, ‘Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.’ He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.’”

— Mark 9:33-37

“Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them. Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’ When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.” — Matthew 19: 13-15

### Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that you care about children. Thank You for caring about the weak and voiceless. Thank You that you reach out and take me in your arms when I feel that way. Help me to do the same. Help me to become great by serving the weak. Amen.

### Questions

Do you ever interact with children? What is it like?

Have you ever considered working with kids?

Who are the weak and voiceless in your community who you can help and welcome?

### Reflection

It’s kind of embarrassing to be shown up by a child. You try so hard and give something your best shot, and then tiny weak human being comes along and does it better. This is what happens to the disciples. They are all trying to prove that they are the greatest, and Jesus takes a child in his arms and says that the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. While they are trying to climb the ladder of importance, Jesus says that they should be trying to welcome children.

Children are those who are often weak and voiceless. They aren’t people your look to when you are trying to get ahead in life; they need others to take care of them. But, in the kingdom of God, we become greater by serving those who are below us. Let that settle in as you look to become great.