

May 2, 2021

# Scott's Thoughts



*“Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people,”* (Matthew 19:13, ESV)

“I would like to invite you to come to church.” One of the reasons often given for saying “No” is, “We have young children, and they can be disruptive.” That is true of all babies and toddlers in all situations. So, if I may, let me express how we really feel about this.

Even though parents expect their children to be well-behaved, in church they sometimes act up. Bring your children to church anyway! Even though they may fidget, take off the cute tie or bow in their hair. They may lay down in the pew and go to sleep or they may, before you know it, get down on the floor and crawl around under the pews. Bring them anyway! They may get fussy and cry from time to time. Some will get away from mom and dad and run up and down the aisles. Bring them anyway.

We have a nice sound system. If we need to, we can turn up the mic gain so that everyone can hear, even with the commotion. There is no reason to be embarrassed by your children being children. Most of us are either going through the same with our own children or have already gone through the same with our children.

What children gain from being at church is important. They will gain the knowledge of Jesus

who is the most loving individual to have walked on the face of this planet. It is a place of safety where they are surrounded by people who love them and want only the best for them. They’ll be around people who want to be with them, not because they have too, or because they are paid to be, but because they love children (ALL CHILDREN) and want to help them develop into the kind of people that others will want to be around. Church will be much the same from week to week and is a place of stability where they will experience a sense of community and being part of something much greater than themselves. It will become an anchor for them as they grow and mature into their teens and later as they marry and have children of their own.

Yes, children are messy. They are also loving, exciting, and given to us by God to care for and to teach. We don’t mind the mess, we don’t mind the noise, we love the sounds of life echoing through our building. Come to church and bring your babies and allow us to enjoy their most formative time with you. Invest the time and effort in your children they will be better for it as you help them to gain the hope of Heaven.

*“but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.” And he laid his hands on them and went away.”* (Matthew 19:14–15, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott

*A post on Facebook by [Britt Farmer](#) prompted these thoughts.*