

04/19/2026

SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review

SOCIAL TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH

Fulfilling Our Obligations to Family and Community

■ 4/5: 1 Corinthians 15:13-20, 51-58

Paul talks about the significance of the Resurrection – that if Jesus was not raised, then there is no hope for a better tomorrow, and we may as well enjoy the life we have here since that is all there is.

04/19/2026

SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review

SOCIAL TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH

Fulfilling Our Obligations to Family and Community

- **4/12: Mark 12:17; Romans 13:1,6-8;
1 Peter 2:13-17**

Christians are to obey the laws of both God and man; to submit to and pray for those in leadership that things go well with us; this can be hard when leadership is ungodly

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
04/19/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

SOCIAL TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH

Fulfilling Our Obligations to Family and Community

Children: Gift and Model

Mark 9:36-37, 42; 10:13-16

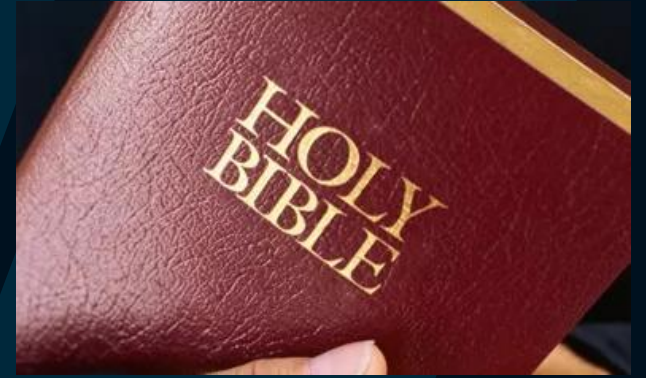
04/19/2026

*Context Text

MARK 9:31 - 32 (NKJV)

³¹ For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

³² But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him.

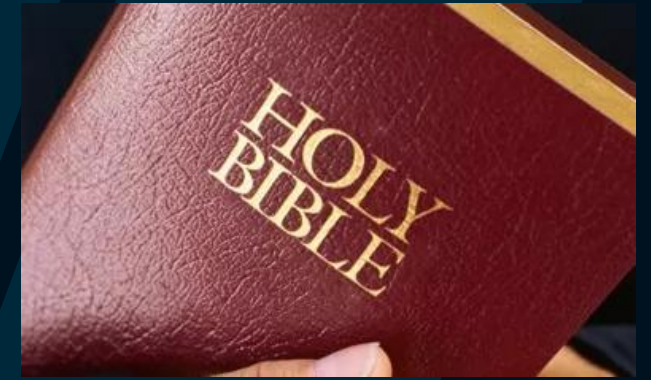


04/19/2026

*Context Text

MARK 9:33 (NKJV)

33 Then He came to Capernaum.
And when He was in the house He
asked them, "What was it you
[a]disputed among yourselves on
the road?"

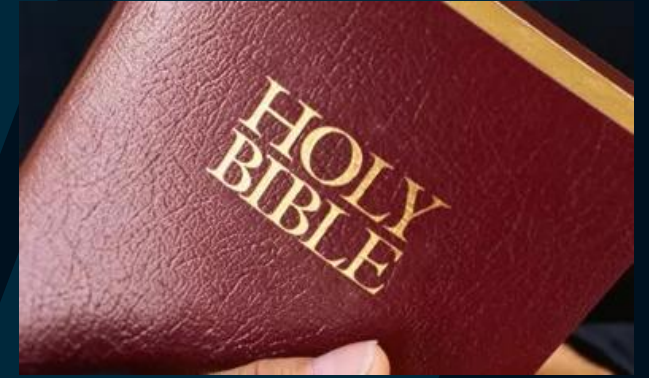


04/19/2026

*Context Text

MARK 9:34 (NKJV)

34 But they kept silent, for on the road they had disputed among themselves who would be the greatest.

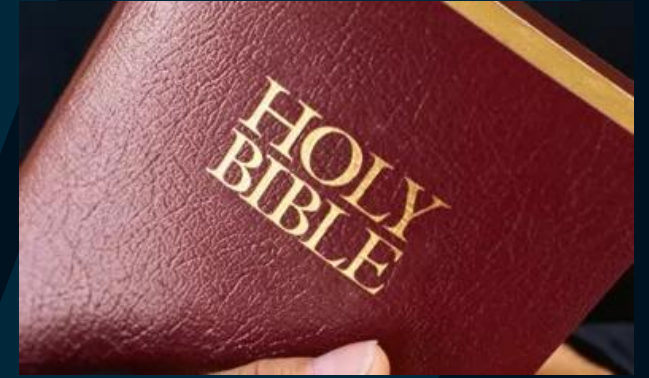


04/19/2026

*Context Text

MARK 9:35 (NKJV)

35 And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all."



04/19/2026

Commentary: Adult Immaturity

- In these verses, the adults show a level of immaturity that children do not show:
 - Even though Jesus predicts his death, the Disciples do not ask questions because of fear of embarrassment. Children on the other hand are often not afraid to ask questions on anything which enables them to learn faster

04/19/2026

Commentary: Adult Immaturity

- In these verses, the adults show a level of immaturity that children do not show:
 - Their conversation focuses on selfish ambition on who will be first – i.e. the leader once Jesus leaves. They know their conversation is not wholesome, which is why they do not answer Jesus when He asks them

04/19/2026

Commentary: Adult Immaturity

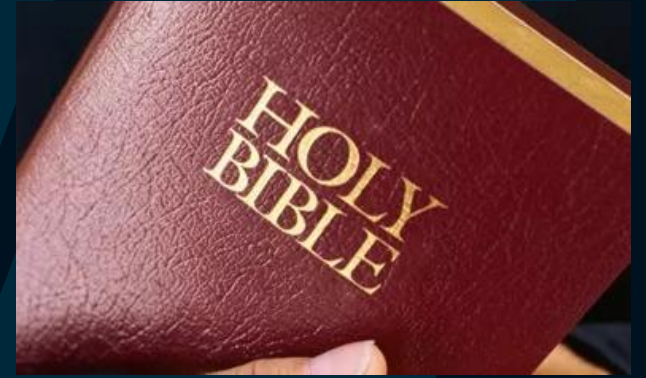
- In these verses, the adults show a level of immaturity that children do not show:
 - Jesus teaches them that leadership is not about who is first (getting served) but about being last (being a servant). We often complain about how selfish young people are but how much of that has been taught by us?

04/19/2026

Lesson Text

MARK 9:36 (NKJV)

36 Then He took a little child and set him in the midst of them. And when He had taken him in His arms, He said to them,

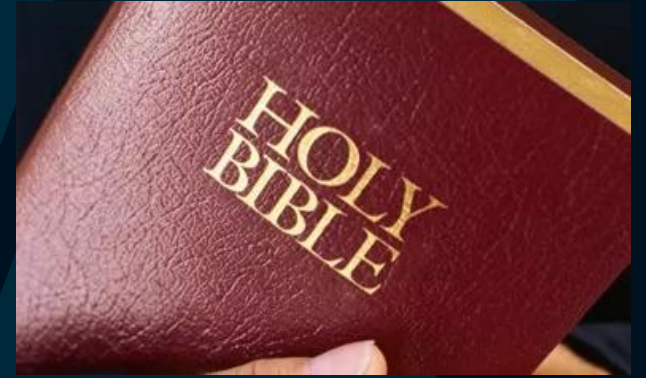


04/19/2026

Lesson Text

MARK 9:37 (NKJV)

37 "Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me."

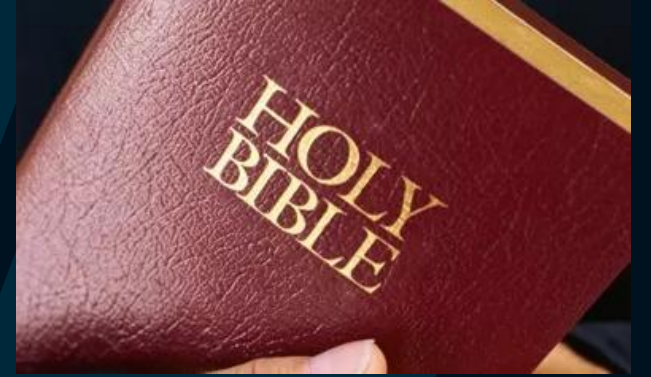


04/19/2026

Lesson Text

MARK 9:42 (NKJV)

42 "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me [a]to stumble, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea.



04/19/2026

Commentary: Receiving Children

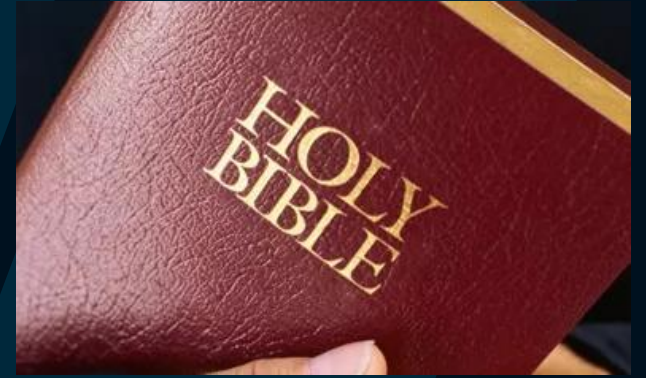
- Children are a gift from God (**Psalm 127:3**).
- Like any gift, we show our appreciation by how we treat that gift.
- Children are not about **ownership**, but **stewardship** and God will hold us accountable in how we treat them

04/19/2026

*Context Text

GENESIS 2:24 (NKJV)

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be^[a] joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.



04/19/2026

Commentary: How Children Stumble

- Jesus also gives dire warning to adults who cause children to stumble.
- Adults often blame children for their condition, but never ask themselves how they – the adults contributed to their condition... how do we make children stumble?

04/19/2026

Commentary: How Children Stumble

1. By not LIVING the example we want them to be – the ‘do as I say, not as I do’ trope does not serve children well
 1. We want our children to always learn but we think as adults there’s nothing to learn
 1. We want our kids in Sunday School or VBS... but are we going?

04/19/2026

Commentary: How Children Stumble

2. By our behavior in front of them:

1. By how we treat the other parent
2. By our language
3. By our lack of work ethic
4. By not keeping our word and promises
5. By a lack of LOVE and DISCIPLINE
6. By our abuse of them (physical, verbal and mental)
7. By abuse of ourselves (we need healing too)

04/19/2026

Commentary: How Children Stumble

3. By our desire in having them

1. Too many children come into the world unwanted or unplanned
2. While children are a blessing, we must ask ourselves are we ready to receive such a blessing?
3. While God can use and lift anyone in His kingdom, that does not absolve us our responsibilities to them

04/19/2026

Commentary: How Children Stumble

4. By Raising 'children'

1. We often say we're raising 'children', but we need to change the language to say we're raising 'ADULTS'
2. When we do not **prepare** and **empower** them to take on responsibilities, when we do not give them areas of trust, we inhibit their growth
3. We must allow them to make mistakes so they can learn from them.

04/19/2026

Commentary: How Children Stumble

4. By Not Engaging Their Curiosity

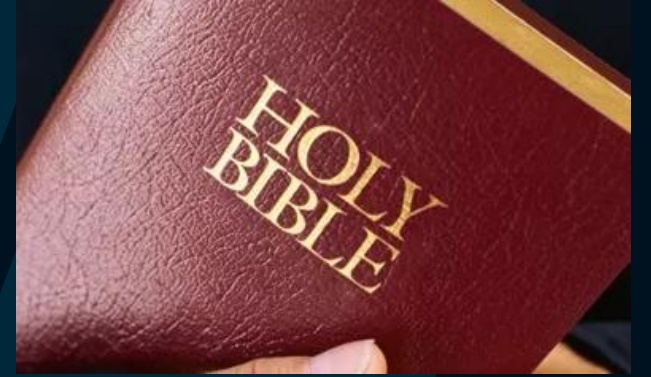
1. As said earlier, children are not afraid to ask 'why', but how often do we stifle them by not answering questions or putting them on a path to get answers
2. By not being learned enough or resourceful to get those answers
3. By treating questions as 'questioning'.

04/19/2026

Lesson Text

MARK 10:13 (NKJV)

13 Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

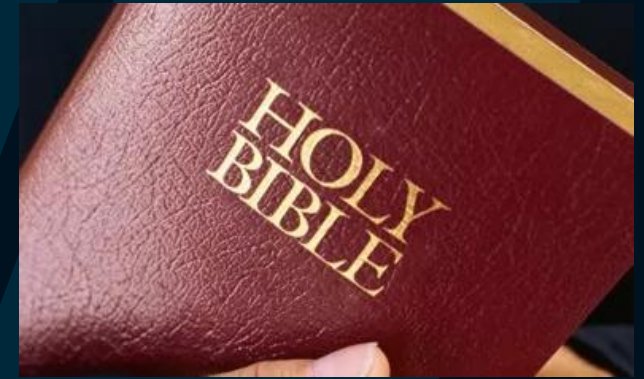


04/19/2026

Lesson Text

MARK 10:14 (NKJV)

14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

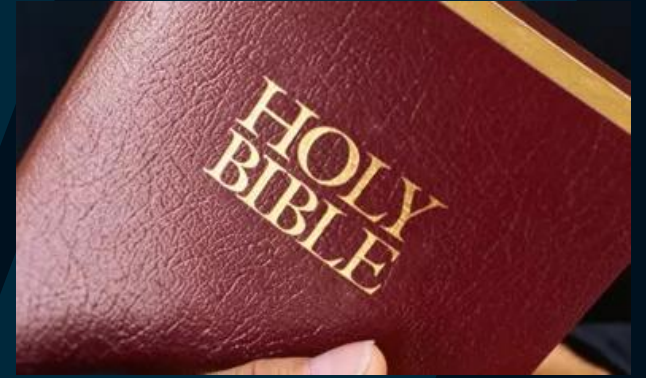


04/19/2026

Lesson Text

MARK 10:15 – 16 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.” ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.



04/19/2026

Commentary: Accepting as a Child

- Children differ from adults in their willingness to trust whereas adults are much more cynical
- As adults, we have a harder time accepting weaknesses and our need for God to provide those needs. When shown love we often reject but children embrace that love in ways adults struggle with.

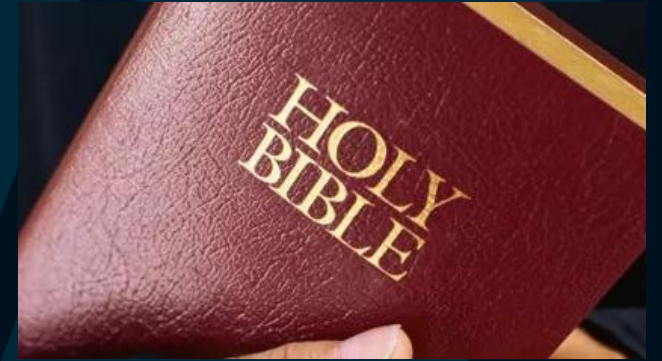
04/19/2026

Commentary: The Church and Children

- What children often lack from their homes, the Church can help to fill the gap
- The Church can provide an atmosphere of love, nurturing, inspiration and service
- The church does well by serving families
- Younger adults can help greatly in teaching and mentorship because of greater relatability

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent
04/19/2026

Scripture References



Matthew 7:7 – 12
Ask, Seek, Knock

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
04/19/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Church School Creed

Our Church School must grow & grow
And we must help to make it so
Every member a Christian
Every Christian a worker
Every worker trained
A worker that will not be ashamed
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
04/19/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Church School Benediction

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN