

“What Is The Aim of This New By-Law?” (Part 3)
Mark 10:13-16

“Of such [children] He tells us is the kingdom of heaven, as though heaven was, in great measure, composed of the souls of redeemed infants.” – (Charles Hodge)

- The Age of Responsibility (Accountability):
 - Mark 10:13-16:
 - “For such as these” have salvation.
 - Christ applies this reality to all children.
 - Children are held in a condition of grace until they reach the age of responsibility — **they are not saved or possessors of eternal life.**
 - No one is saved by their works. We come helpless and in need to God for salvation; we cannot save ourselves.
- The Bible is clear....
 - there is a period of time where a child does not have the ability or competency to understand moral choices. *“And as for **your little ones**, who you said would become a prey, and **your children**, who today have no knowledge of good or evil, they shall go in there.” (Deuteronomy 1:39)*
 - that children are easily convinced and able to be deceived. *“So that we may **no longer be children**, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine.” (Ephesians 4:14)*
 - that children speak, think, and reason differently than adults. *“When I was **a child**, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.” (1 Corinthians 13:11)*
 - children are called “God’s children” and “innocent”. *“That you slaughtered My children and delivered them up as an offering by fire to them.” (Ezekiel 16:21); “And because they have filled this place with the blood of innocents, and have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal.” (Jeremiah 19:4b-5a)*
 - that there will be people from every nation in heaven, giving support to the age of responsibility.... *“For You were slain, and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.” (Revelation 5:9b)*
 - people are responsible judicially before God for their actions. *“For God will bring **every deed into judgment**, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.” (Ecclesiastes 12:14)*
 - our consciences show the development of personal responsibility. *“They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them.” (Romans 2:15)*
 - our ability to be sincerely thankful or unthankful, or to give honor or to dishonor, is evidence of development of personal responsibility: *“For although they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.” (Romans 1:21)*

Worship: Tis So Sweet — Various Artists

Grace Alone — The Modern Post

Jesus, Strong and Kind — CityAlight

Closing Song: Grace and Peace — Sovereign Grace Music

Service Times: Sundays: Sunday School 9/Prayer 9:45a/Church 10:30a; Tuesdays: Bible Study — Women 6:30p/Men 7p; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20p/Church 7p

→**Proposed By-Law Addition 2:** Legacy Community Church suggests that all children who have made a confession of faith in Christ wait to be baptized until after the age of 12 (twelve). Children by nature, live in the here and now. They do not have the capacity to make wise decisions that will impact their future. They have no experience in making difficult choices on weighty issues and cannot contemplate the potential ramifications on themselves and others in making poor decisions. The word of God tells us that “foolishness is bound up in the heart of children” (Proverbs 22:15), that “children speak, think, and reason different than adults” (1 Corinthians 13:11), and that “children are easily tossed to and fro in what they believe” (Ephesians 4:14). In light of these truths and others, we believe it is wise to refrain from baptizing children before the age of 12 (twelve) so that we are above reproach in all practices in the Church.

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** For more information about our July donation collection, please see the July Newsletter! **TODAY is the LAST day for this collection!** Upcoming: for our August donation collection, we will be collecting monetary donations for the Bobbs.

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship Lunch TODAY, immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us.

★**CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER:** Our monthly Church Night of Prayer is TONIGHT, from 5:30-7pm. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body. Please consider joining us for a portion of this time or for the full time of prayer.

★**COMMUNION:** We will be partaking of and celebrating Communion together NEXT Sunday, August 3rd.

★**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MEETING:** We are having a Children's Ministry Meeting **NEXT** Sunday, August 3rd, immediately following the worship service. If you currently serve in the Children's Ministry, please plan on staying for this important meeting!

★**CEDAR POINT:** Christina Strawn is organizing a group trip to Cedar Point on Saturday, August 23rd. Group Admission tickets are \$50 each. Please contact Christina Strawn if you would like to go or if you have any questions (740)755-6512.