

Reflection Saturday Week 19 – 2020

“Let the little children come to me, the kingdom of God belongs to such as these!” Once upon a time there was a rich man who had a son. Anything the son asked for the father would give to him. He wanted for nothing. As time passed, the father became worried that his son would never ever really appreciate and value what he had, or, how to teach him respect for others whatever their situation, background, race or creed. So, one day the father decided to take his son to spend a day in a very poor village. They dressed in simple clothes so as to blend in. The father was pleased to see that his son treated the people with great care and respect. Having spent a full day there, they returned home and the father asked his son what he thought of the visit. *“It was great, dad!”* he said. When his father asked his son what he had learnt, he said *“We have one dog but they had four dogs. We have a pool at our home, but they have a great big river. We buy food to eat but they grow their own food.”* The son continued, *“We have so many lights in our house but they have all the beautiful stars. We have walls to protect us but they have many friends. We have televisions to pass the time but they have family with whom they are able to spend quality time. We have lots of money but they have God with them!”* The father was left overcome and speechless listening to the observations and discoveries of his son about his experiences. Finally, his son added, *“Thank you father for showing me how poor we are!”*

As Angela Schwindt said: *“While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about.”*

It is hardly surprising, therefore, that Jesus had a special place in his heart for children and why he invited us to become like them!

Out of the mouths of children:

Two children are talking to each other.

1st Child: "I'm really worried. My dad works twelve hours a day to give me a nice home and good food. My mom spends the whole day cleaning and cooking for me. I'm worried sick!"

2nd Child: "What have you got to worry about? Sounds to me like you've got it made!"

1st Child: "But, what if they try to escape?????"