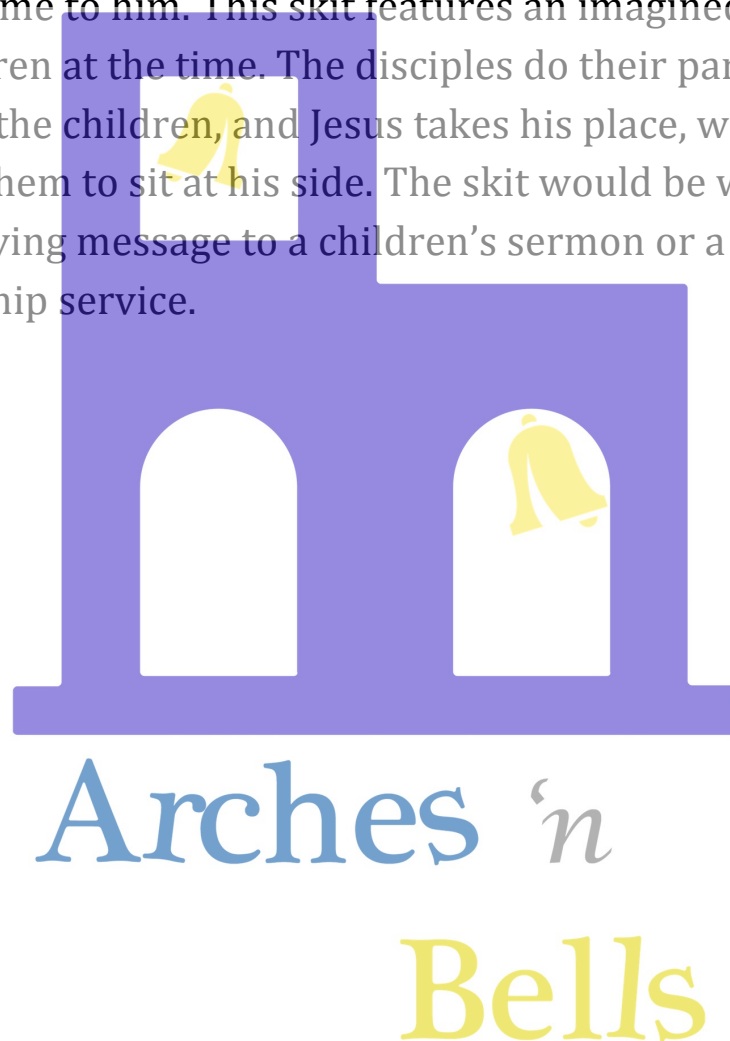


Summary to:

## **Little Children**

*by Stephanie Becken*

Little Children is a child's view of the day Jesus welcomed the little children to come to him. This skit features an imagined conversation of three children at the time. The disciples do their part, discouraging the children, and Jesus takes his place, welcoming the least among them to sit at his side. The skit would be wonderful as an accompanying message to a children's sermon or a children's-themed worship service.



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**Text:** Matthew 19:13-15

**Theme:** Curiosity, welcome, love

**Time Needed to Perform:** 4-5 minutes

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***What going on?*** Jesus and his disciples have drawn a crowd to the side of the stage. At center stage is a trio of children wondering what is going on, and what they can do to meet this mystery teacher.

***When is it all happening?*** Old Testament times, late afternoon.

***Who are the characters?*** Child (*boys or girls*) One, Two, and Three; Woman, Disciple. Jesus, Rich man.

***How should this skit be performed?*** This would be a good opening type skit, requiring minimal memorization or coaching for most of the parts. Light-hearted, fun for kids and older youth. Easy to bring in older kids or adults with the 'woman', disciple, Jesus, rich man places, or use all kids. Can add more to the 'crowd' by Jesus if more people want to participate.

***What props will we need?*** Costumes for participants—simple tunics. Rocks for the children.

**Setting:** Outdoor setting, trees, picnic type area set up.

**Characters:** Three children, one disciple, one woman, one rich man, and Jesus.

1    **SCRIPT:**

2    *[The focus is on the imagined conversation of the children hoping to*  
3    *see Jesus. Children in these times were second class citizens, so Jesus*  
4    *spending time with them was another piece that set him apart from*  
5    *others. Jesus and disciple are on side of the stage, pantomiming*  
6    *talking to each other and to a 'crowd'.]*

7    **Child One:** *[Child playing pick up rocks (like jacks, with rocks—toss*  
8    *one rock, try to pick up one rock on the ground before catching the*  
9    *first rock and so on, trying to grab more rocks each time)]* Onesies.  
10    Twosies. Threesies. Win!

11    **Child Two:** *[Approaches first child.]* What'cha doing?

12    **Child One:** Playing rocks. Want to play with me?

13    **Child Two:** *[Kneels and takes a turn.]* What do you think they're  
14    doing over there?

15    **Child One:** It's just a teacher. They come through sometimes. I don't  
16    know why this one is so special.

17    **Child Three:** *[Races up, out of breath, raggedy and dirty.]* Did you  
18    hear that it's Jesus talking to the group? *The* Jesus? From Nazareth?

19    **Child One:** *[Shrugs]* So?

1 **Child Three:** *[Snags the rocks from the other kids.]* Don't you get it?  
2 It's Jesus. He's healed, like, every disease there is—including  
3 leprosy. And my dad said Jesus drove out a demon in another village.  
4 A real demon.

5 **Child One:** Nuh-uh. Only God can do those things.

6 **Child Two:** *[Stands up.]* I've heard of this guy. Some are saying he  
7 might be the messiah.

8 **Child One:** *[Jumps to his/her feet.]* Well, if he is, then I want to meet  
9 him. Think we could maybe offer to bring some water up, or  
10 something? What will get us close?

11 **Child Three:** I heard of a group of friends who lowered a guy down  
12 from the roof. What if we went around back and climbed the tree  
13 and then, you know, dropped.

14 **Child Two:** *[Pushes Child three]* And break our legs? My mom would  
15 kill me.

16 **Child Three:** *[Smirks]* I heard Jesus can raise the dead.

17 **Child One:** Let's not test that today. I bet maybe we can get close if  
18 we're sneaky. There's a bunch of those guys, Jesus' friends, but  
19 they'll be busy talking. I bet we can squeeze in.

20 *[Three children sneak up to where Jesus and the other 'adults' have  
21 been pantomiming. The kids bob and weave through the group.]*

22 **Woman:** *[Catches the three children by the scruffs of their necks.]*  
23 There you three are. Come and meet the teacher.

1 **Child One:** We were trying to go meet him.

2 **Woman:** *[Smiles]* Very smart of you. I will help you get closer. You'll  
3 meet Jesus today. *[Woman and children approach Jesus.]*

4 **Disciple:** *[Arms crossed]* Take those children out of here.

5 **Woman:** Surely the teacher can make a little time for these children.  
6 They'll be quiet.

7 **Disciple:** No. His time is taken. Can't you see all of these people,  
8 woman? These people are more important. The teacher will not see  
9 these children.

10 **Jesus:** *[Stands and approaches where the disciple has blocked the*  
11 *children.]* What's this? No, let the children come to me. These little  
12 ones, these are the ones my kingdom belongs to. Come along.

13 **Child 1, 2, 3:** *[Join Jesus, eyes wide].*

14 **Rich Man:** *[Approaches looking very official and wealthy].* Teacher,  
15 what good must I do to have eternal life?

16 **Jesus:** *[Leans down to the children]* All right, kids, pay close attention.  
17 These lessons will be for the ones listening today, but it will be you  
18 who pass this information on for generations to come.

19 **Child 1, 2, 3:** *[Nod and lean closer, all ears at attention. Scene closes*  
20 *when Jesus sits up again.]*

**END**