



## **How to Go to Jesus**

### **Mark 10:15-16**

*“Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them” (Mark 10:15-16—ESV).*

When we receive Jesus Christ as a little child, as one who recognizes His goodness and His love for us, as one who trusts Him and does what He says because we know He is doing what is best for us, then Jesus takes us in His arms and blesses us. He lays His spiritual hands on us and fills us with His loving presence through His gift of the Holy Spirit. If we become misled in our thinking and behavior or come to believe in foolish thoughts that we have learned from those who do not know Jesus, we can return to Jesus, for He is not far from us. Those who have received Jesus for who He is as their Lord and Savior, and who have believed in Him as the Bible teaches, know that He will keep working within them and do in their lives what needs to be done for them to become more mature, loving, and obedient to Him. The Bible teaches that because we have become a child of our Heavenly Father through faith in Jesus Christ and because He loves us, if we need to be disciplined then He will discipline (or punish to restore) us in ways that will lead us back to Him and help us live as mature, spiritual adults. If this takes Jesus a long time, He is patient, and the problem is not His, but ours; some of us are slower to learn than others. In Matthew 12:20-21 we read, “a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; and in his name the Gentiles will hope.” Jesus will not bring us under more discipline than we need to lead us back to loving and following Him truly as our Lord and Savior. A time will come when His disobedient child returns to Him as they first came to Him. They will return with trusting faith and obedience. If we have strayed away or become stubborn in doing everything our own way instead of His way, experience has taught us that the sooner we return to Him, the quicker our joy will return as He reassures us of His undying love and we love Him with grateful hearts.