



August 2018

Devotion

Completion of Lukonda Lutheran
School Buildings, Uganda - \$48,000

Let the Children Come to Me:

Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." And he laid his hands on them and went away (Matthew 19:13-15).

Leader:

The world of Jesus' day paid little attention to women and children. They were not given the same importance as fathers and men. This was how they were raised. The disciples followed Jesus and listened to His teachings yet missed so much of His message. Why? Their world was oppressed by the Romans and their own Jewish leaders who were more concerned with the obedience of the Law than with teaching the people the promises that God had given them through the prophets.

All: Lord, hear our prayers for the children of the world.

Leader: How different is our world today? We may think it is entirely different but there were wars then and famines, and droughts. People were concerned about supporting their families. Our worries seem different today with nuclear war, natural disasters and economic problems that affect our lives. When the news reports one tragedy after another, sexual scandals and inefficient government, do we forget God and His promises?

All: Lord, hear our prayers for the children of the world.

Leader: Let the little children come. How do we understand what Jesus is telling us? Are we to be innocent and naïve about the world around us? No! Jesus wants us to remember who is in control of our lives and the world. He calls us to be faithful and to stand up for what is right. We are to teach our children and all children of the world that God has them in His hands. He alone will provide for all their needs.

All: Lord, hear our prayers for the children of the world.

Leader: Listen to the children laughing and singing, Jesus loves me, this I know. Watch as they play and act out what they are taught. Discipline them when they fight and are mean to each other. Show them how to love each other. Be Jesus to them through your actions and words.

All: Lord, hear our prayers for the children of the world.

Leader: LORD, encourage us open our hearts to the children of Lukonda, Uganda and equip us to give generously so that the school buildings there may be completed. Show us how we can make a difference in their lives. Help us to remember them in our prayers. Enable us to be examples to all the children in our lives that our joy is complete. Jesus loves them and He loves us.

All: Lord, hear our prayers for the children of the world.

