

As Kids See Things

Our view of the world and the people in it is shaped by environment and experiences. And perceptions may change as our age advances.

Put another way: Children see things differently than do adults. Recently, I read a short essay by an unknown author that dramatically illustrates this truth:

When I look at a patch of dandelions, I see a bunch of weeds that are going to take over my yard. Kids see flowers for Mom and white fluff you can wish on.

When I look at a drunk and he smiles at me, I see a smelly, dirty person who probably wants money. Kids see someone smiling at them, and they smile back.

When I hear music I love, I know I can't carry a tune and don't have much rhythm, so I sit self-consciously and listen. Kids feel the beat and move to it. They sing the words, and if they don't know them, they make up their own.

When I feel wind on my face, I brace myself against it. I feel it messing up my hair and pulling me back when I walk. Kids close their eyes, spread their arms, and fly with the wind until they fall to the ground laughing.

When I pray, I say "thee" and "thou" and "grant me this" and "give me that." Kids say, "Hi, God! Thanks for my toys and my friends. Please keep the bad dreams away tonight. Sorry, I don't want to go to heaven yet; I would miss Mommy and Daddy."

When I see a mud puddle, I step around it. I see muddy shoes and clothes and dirty carpets. Kids sit in the puddle. They see dams to build, rivers to cross, and worms to play with.



I wonder if we are given kids to teach or to learn from? No wonder God loves the little children!

And the wisdom contained in this piece is certainly a refreshing way to start our day.

Jesus called them (infants) to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God (Luke 18:16-17 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter