

The Views of Children

Last Friday, the subject of the Perspective dealt with a little girl's concept of God, and her determination to put it on paper. Children have simple – and often profound – views of church and what they see and experience. For examples:

- A Sunday School teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to the church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."
- The preacher was wired for sound with a lapel microphone. As he preached, he moved briskly about the platform, jerking the microphone cord as he went. Then he moved to one side, getting wound up in the cord and nearly tripping before jerking it again. After several circles and jerks, a little girl in the third pew leaned toward her mother and whispered, "If he gets loose, will he hurt us?"
- Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother, Joel, were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church," she said. "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel retorted. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those men standing by the door? They're hushers."
- A little boy opened the big, old family Bible with fascination, looking at the old pages as he turned them. Then something fell out, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked. With astonishment in his voice, he answered, "It's Adam's suit!"

Ahh, the forthrightness, and the delight, of children.

--Beecher Hunter