

Series Preface:

1. God is 100% for all human life (Jn 10:11b; Acts 17:25b)
2. God is at work in every stage of your life, meaning your life is NEVER useless in His hands (Eph 2:10).
3. Let His Word shape our view of life & its stages (Isa 40:8).

Finding Purpose in Life's Six Stages: The Wonder of Childhood
Luke 2:39-40; 18:15-17

“And the Child (Jesus) grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the grace of God was upon Him.” ~Luke 2:40

Purpose #1: _____!

- Before children are born in absolute _____, they are born an absolute _____.

Esau said (to his twin brother): “Who are these with you?” Jacob said: “The children whom God has graciously given your servant.” ~Genesis 33:5

- In both Testaments, the welfare of children is a _____ responsibility. (Isa 1:17, 23; James 1:27)

“...the fatherless has eaten at my table (for from my youth the fatherless grew up with me as with a father)...” ~Job 31:17-18

Purpose #2: _____!

- _____

Do not withhold discipline from a child. ~Proverbs 23:13
Train up a child in the way he should go. ~Proverbs 22:6

- God's amazing _____ and His sure _____.

Tell the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD and the wonders He has done ... that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children. ~Psalm 78:4-7

Purpose #3: _____!

Now people were carrying to Jesus even the babies so that they might be touched/held; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called to them saying: “Allow the children to come to Me and do not forbid them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I say to you, ‘Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a child, will surely never enter it.’” ~Luke 18:15-17

- Jesus not only declares the _____ children, but children and babies become _____ kingdom membership and discipleship!!!

- Being child _____, NOT child _____. ~1 Cor 13:11

- ♥ Where adults tend to be self-assured, independent, and _____, babies/children come to Jesus humble and helpless – _____ God and His mercy and _____ everything _____.

