



B REVEALING WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

# God's view of children



## Why use this Bible study?

This Bible study can help us explore some of what the Bible teaches about the value and importance of children.



## Made in the image of God

**Read Genesis 1:26-27.** God has made us, male and female, in his image. This means in some ways we are similar to him.

**Read Deuteronomy 7:11-14.** God promised his people that if they live according to his ways then he will bless them and multiply them and bless their children.

**Read Psalm 127 and Psalm 128.** Children are a blessing from the Lord. We also read that our children will grow up like olive shoots if we fear (respect and honour) the Lord.



## Key points

- All people, everywhere, are made in God's image.
- Children are a blessing from God.
- If we are faithful to God, we will pass on God's blessings to our children.



## Questions for discussion

- What do the Genesis 1 verses say about the value of people in God's eyes?
- Does He value children any differently from adults?
- In what ways do you think we may be similar to God (Made in His image)?
- How do these verses encourage us to respect adults and children?
- How are children viewed in our culture?
- In what practical ways can we encourage those around us to view children in the way that God views them?
- What words are used to describe God's view of children in Psalms 127 and 128? Discuss what these words mean.
- Do we always view children as a blessing?

Awareness raising

Children & youth

Climate & environment

Conflict & peace-building

Corruption & governance

Disaster risk management

Discrimination & inclusion

Food & livelihoods

Gender & sexual violence

Health & HIV

Influencing decision-makers

Migration & trafficking

Water, sanitation & hygiene



## Reflection

Think about the community you live in. How are children treated? Do we treat them as a blessing from the Lord? Do we seek to bless them as God has blessed us? How can we do that today?



## Notes

This Bible study is based on a study first published in Tearfund (2004) ROOTS 7: *Child participation* - [http://tilz.tearfund.org/en/resources/publications/roots/child\\_participation/](http://tilz.tearfund.org/en/resources/publications/roots/child_participation/)

### Related tools

- A1 – Revealing the need to protect children: information for facilitators [A1: Children & youth-1]
- A2 – Using the media to talk about child protection [A2: Children & youth-1]
- A2 – Drama on child marriage [A2: Children & youth-2]
- A2 – Discussing standards for child protection [A2: Children & youth-3]
- B – Caring for children (Bible study) [B: Children & youth-1]

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