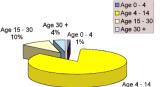
Childlike Faith = Transformational Faith



At what age do Americans become Christian?

^{Age 4.14} The data in the pie graph or chart comes from research done at the Global Ministry Center of the Church of the Nazarene.

Another survey by the <u>International Bible Society</u> indicated that 83% of all Christians make their first commitment to Jesus between the ages of 4 and 14, that is, when they are children or early youth. Surverys done by the <u>Barna Research Group</u> indicate that American children ages 5 to 13 have a 32% probability of accepting Christ, but youth or teens aged 14 to 18 have only a 14% probability of doing so. Unbelieving adults age 19 and over have just a 6% probability of becoming Christians.

¹⁵One day some parents brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But when the disciples saw this, they scolded the parents for bothering him.¹⁶ Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. ¹⁷ I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." Luke 18:15-17 NLT

Heart Check:

- Are you still enthusiastic about your relationship with God? Revelation 2:4
- Is something holding you back from coming to Christ freely with all your heart? 1 John 1:9
- Is your faith maturing as you are maturing? 2 Peter 3:18

¹¹"You fathers—if your children ask^[a] for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? ¹²Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not!¹³ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." Luke 11:11-13NIV ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. Matthew 22:36-38 NIV

Childlike Faith is:

- An Intimate Faith Psalm 63:1
- A faith that finds contentment in Jesus alone. Luke 10:40-42_
- A faith that believes contact with Jesus makes all the difference. Luke 8:43-48
- A faith in Jesus' authority that isn't logical. Luke 7:1-10
- A faith that is willing to accept people the way God does. Acts 10:9-48