



# Closing the Gap:

*Where am I?  
Where do I want to be?*

**Gal. 4:4-7** But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, *“Abba, Father.”* So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

**Mark 10:13-16** People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

**1. We are to be childlike, not childish**

**John 21:25 "Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written."**

**1 Th. 4:11-12 Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.**

## **2. Simple, not simplistic**

**Heb. 2:14-15** Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.



### **3. Heartfelt, not mindless praying**

**Prov. 18:13** He who answers before listening — that is his folly and his shame.

**Prov. 10:19** When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

**4. Be adults in regard to the past and future, more like a child in regards to the present**

- 1. Repent of childishness...reflect deeply on childlike dependency.**
- 2. Take your fears to God...ask him to align your thinking, feeling, and doing with the facts of faith.**
- 3. Pray mindful but heartfelt prayers...be honest with what is real on inside of you and be open to being redirected to more adult-like thinking and feeling.**
- 4. Give him your past and future, ask him to help you engage him right now.**