

Children in the Marketplace

June 1, 2025 | *Luke 7:31-35*



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Observation: What is happening here?:

The Parable of the Children in the Marketplace (Symbolism)

Marketplace = Public life

Children = “This generation” / people

Sitting Passively = Those who do not respond -

Flute & Dance = Grace (Jesus)

Dirge & Mourning = Repentance and Sorrow (John the Baptist)

Parabolic Outline (Luke 7:31-35)

- “*We played the flute for you, and you did not dance*” - v.17a
- “*We sang a dirge, and you did not mourn*” - v.17b
- The people (this generation) rejected both John and Jesus (law and grace)
- Jesus is called friend of sinners.
- A person of wisdom is a person of word and deed.

Ontario Community Church: **Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.**

John 6:47 (ESV) “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **believes** has eternal life”

Interpretation: What can we learn (interpret) from this?

- **Don't be a "sitting" child**

- "Children sitting" symbolizes spiritual unresponsiveness.
- Passivity can harden the heart and miss God's call for you.
 - *References: Matthew 13:4, Hebrews 3:7-8, Proverbs 28:14*

- **Some will reject law and grace**

- John represented law (discipline); Jesus embodied grace (joy and freedom).
- Rejecting both reveals deep spiritual blindness.
 - *References: Romans 2:5, Matthew 23:37, Luke 15:25-32*

- **Wisdom is shown by Fruitfulness**

- Wisdom is shown through spiritual transformation (response).
- Both John's and Jesus' ministries were validated by their fruit.
 - *References: Proverbs 8, 1 Corinthians 1:24-30, James 3:13, Matthew 7:16-20*

Application: What can I do? How can I live this out?

- **Check Your Heart: Is it Active or Passive?**

- Both seriousness and joy are valid responses to God.
- Let us see the seriousness & joy of salvation and the new life in Him!
 - *References: Proverbs 4:23, Ezekiel 36:26, Hebrews 3:15, Revelation 3:20*

- **Respond to God's Invitation**

- Embrace both repentance (law) and joy (grace). Let there be balance of the two.
- Begin by responding to salvation through faith. Continue to respond through becoming more like Christ.
 - *References: Acts 3:19, Romans 12:15, Philippians 4:4, John 1:14-17*

- **Show Wisdom through your New Life in Christ**

- Let your words and deeds show wisdom and spiritual fruitfulness.
- May you be on a journey to know Christ, grow in Him and do good in his name!
 - *References: James 1:22, Matthew 5:16, Colossians 1:10, Titus 3:14*

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