



God Chose You!

Life Sunday Children's Message

Items needed: perhaps a small basket, bucket, or bowl of trinket toys or pieces of candy

Good morning, my brothers and sisters in Christ!

When I was your age, I liked to go to the dentist. Do you like to go to the dentist? I like feeling my teeth clean and smooth and strong. Sometimes I even got to watch a movie in the chair or choose what music to listen to!

But my favorite part of the dentist was the prize basket. They had a basket full of little toys right behind the front desk. At the end of my visit, if I had sat really still and I had been brushing well, I got to choose a prize. Not just a sticker or a sucker, but a toy! I loved to put my hand into the prize basket all the way to the bottom. And I'd shuffle it around looking for just the best one. I'd grab hold of this one and see what it was, then I'd pick up that one and look at it, and I'd set two or three that I really wanted off to the side.

Of course, after a couple minutes my mother would tell me I couldn't take all day, and I'd have to decide which was my favorite. And I'd take my brand-new special toy home still wrapped in the plastic, and for the next few days, it would be my favorite one of all time.

Who do you think is God's favorite of all time? Our Almighty Maker, our Heavenly Father, who do you think He likes most? Some people say He likes angels the most. Some people say nice folks are His favorite. Some think it's the adults like me, but some think it's the younger ones like you.

Do we sometimes believe somebody else is God's favorite? When we see someone stronger than we are, do we feel like God loves them more? When we meet someone we find smarter than us, do we feel that God must love them most of all? Sometimes when our neighbor looks prettier or acts happier, or our classmate has more friends, or our brother or sister has better toys, we might tell ourselves God has chosen them to be more special.

Well, today Jesus has some good news for us. He's got really good news for you.

Our Savior and our Lord Jesus says, "Remember you did not choose me, but I chose you." God chose you! God chose you to be special when He knit you together in your mother's belly. "Remember you did not choose me, but I chose you."



God chose you to be precious when He came into our world through His mother's belly and gave His body and blood on the cross to take away our sins. "Remember you did not choose me, but I chose you." God chose you to be His own treasure when He called you into faith and forgiveness as part of His family. "Remember you did not choose me, but I chose you."

That means you are His beloved son, you are His beloved daughter, you are God's own beloved child! You are princes and princesses that He always stays close to and takes care of. You will be raised from the grave to reign with Him over the new heavens and new earth forever!

"Remember you did not choose me, but I chose you." Did you know that every human being is God's favorite? He chooses to love every person when He creates them inside their mamas. He chooses to love every person when He redeems them by becoming human. He chooses to love every person when He puts His Spirit into their bodies.

It doesn't matter how young or old they are, what they look like, where they come from, or what they can do or can't. Jesus makes all of us God's favorite, from the very beginning when He calls us into being until the very end when He calls us home to heaven.

Doesn't that good news change the way we treat each other?

Let's pray.

Dear Heavenly Father, I belong to You. Your Son Jesus has made me Your favorite. Thank You for choosing me. Let me show all the people I know that You've chosen them as Your favorites, too. Amen.