

## What Makes Children Naturally Not Racist

### I. Due to the image of God in them, children are naturally friendly.

- Titus 3:4-5; Ephesians 4:31-32; I Corinthians 13:4; Proverbs 21:21
- A child's inherent friendliness comes from God.
- Though the actual English word "friendly" doesn't show up frequently in the Scriptures, we learn often of God's kindness. And God's people are commanded to be kind all throughout the Scripture.
- Kind, loving people don't hate in the sinful sense.
- We need to nurture this kind, friendly spirit in our children. I know how easy it is to want to quash their gregarious natures. We don't want them talking to strangers. We don't want them getting in with the wrong group. We want them to be wise and discerning, and I'm all for that. But we also need to work to mature and beautify our children's natural propensity to accept others the way they are.

### II. Due to the image of God in them, children are naturally curious.

- Proverbs 25:2; Proverbs 27:20
- The Scriptures are filled with curious people asking fantastic questions.
- We and our kids come into this world with a palpable thirst for new experiences, sights, sounds, tastes, and tactile adventures.
- It's this curiosity that often fuels a child's desire to make new friends and meet new people. And it's also their curiosity that causes them to pay close attention to that which is out of the ordinary and ask questions about it.
- Curious people who see the world with wide-eyed wonder are positioned to find joy in the differences of people.
- We need to — for so many reasons — embolden and enrich our children's curiosity. But for the sake of our topic, Christian parents should help their children nurture their curiosity as a way to build empathy. When we are curious to truly know another person, understand who they are, feel their emotions, and walk a mile in their shoes, it will be hard to hate that person. Empathy grows from compassion, but it also requires a large dose of curiosity.

### III. Due to the image of God in them, children naturally appreciate beauty.

- Ecclesiastes 3:11; Philippians 4:8
- There are so many different shapes, sizes, and colors in humanity because God is infinitely creative. Everything He makes is beautiful, and our curiosity should drive us to want to see it all.
- Children have the ability to see beauty where adults see only their own jaded reflections.
- We need to encourage our children to find God's beautiful will even in the darkest and hardest of times.
- We need to help our children find the beauty in everything. Every part of nature is beautiful in one way or another. Every person is beautiful. And if you're coming up with a hundred examples of people and things that you do not think are beautiful, you need to look at those things through the eyes of the Creator.