



"Come to Jesus."

Jesus and the Children - Mark 10:13-16

Granny B and Pops sat on the porch quietly sipping lemonade. Suddenly, the silence was broken by a burst of voices coming from around the side of the farmhouse. Granny B smiled while Pops laughed, both knowing Delbert and Lello were nearby.

"Haw! Granny B! Pops!" Delbert called excitedly.

"Hello little ones," Granny B said, motioning for them to come up on the porch.

"What are you two so excited about?" Pops asked.

"Haw! Lello and I decided to pick some strawberries to give to the littlest lambs," Delbert answered.

"They've never had strawberries before," Lello added.

Granny smiled, "Oh, I'm sure they will love that!"

"Haw! And, we're going to make little cards to go with them. We'll decorate the cards with the words, 'Jesus loves you,'" Delbert said proudly.

"We want the littlest lambs to know they are important to Jesus," Lello explained.

"What a great idea!" Granny B picked her Bible up off the table next to her.

"That's what Jesus did when He hugged the children."

"Wow! A hug from Jesus! I would love that. What happened?" Delbert asked.

Granny B nodded to Pops who explained, "People were bringing little children to Jesus. But his followers told the people to stop."

Lello looked sad. "Oh, no. That's baaaaad," she whispered.

"Haw! I'd be mad!" Delbert added.

"Jesus warned His followers and said, "Let the children come to Me."

"Haw!" Delbert interrupted, "That showed everybody Jesus wants children to come to Him. Then, what did He do?"

Pops replied, "Jesus took the little children in His arms."

"Yeah!" Lello smiled, "A hug from Jesus! They must have felt very special!"

"Yes," Pops agreed, "and then He blessed them.

Delbert brayed happily, "Haw! Jesus sure loves the little children."

"Yeah, and we love the littlest lambs," Lello added. "We want to show them that by giving them our strawberries and by reminding them that Jesus loves them."

Pops nodded, "That's just what Jesus wants all little ones to know!

"Delbert, we've got some strawberries to pick," Lello said.

"And some cards to decorate. Maybe we can give them hugs, too." With that, Delbert cheered, "Let's go, Lello!"

"Baa. Thanks for the story, Pops!" Lello called, as she followed Delbert down the porch steps.

"Be sure to come back and tell us how your friends like the strawberries," Pops called with a smile.