

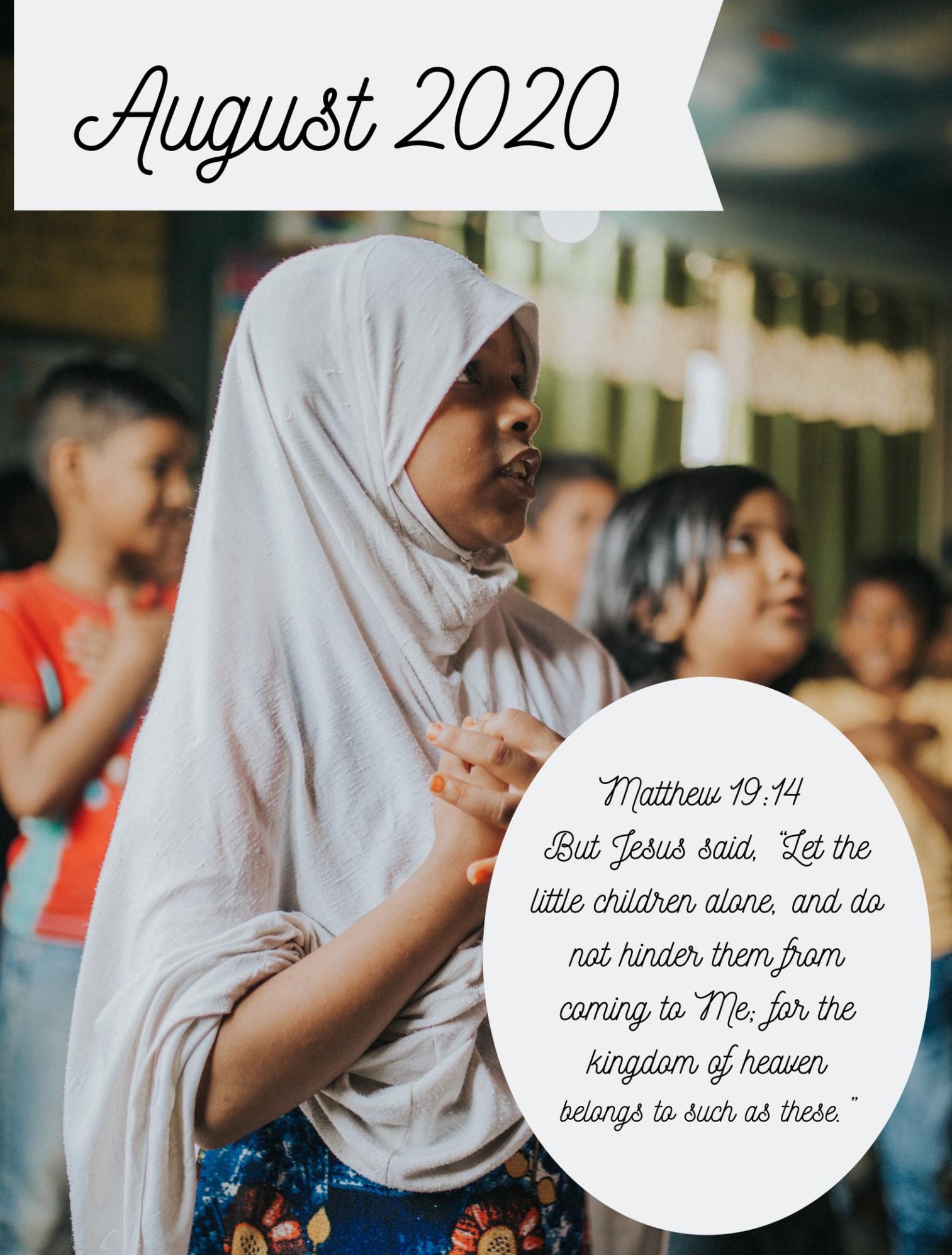


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*Matthew 19:14
But Jesus said, "Let the little children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*



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PATRICK KLEIN
STAND UP FOR OUR CHILDREN



Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, my heart is heavy as I see and hear the assault on children around the world. Whether the child is in the womb or walking on this earth, there is a satanic attack on children. Satan likes to target people who cannot defend themselves and children are the most vulnerable. I believe now more than ever we need to do everything we can to protect children as they are at the greatest risk.

As we have shared, currently, the orphanages are closed in Pakistan making children more vulnerable to traffickers. One of the boys from the Pakistan Safe Haven Home was kidnapped and beaten so that a man could get a television in a scam.

We heard this morning about two young boys, brothers, taken off as child soldiers by their father when they were 9 and 13 in Burma. The older one recently died of malaria, and the younger one is still serving on front lines. Thankfully, both boys love Jesus and have stayed true to the Lord.

Where we work in India, girls as young as 5 years old are used by men who believe that if they have sex with a virgin they will be healed from Aids.

The assault on children is not just an international tragedy. We recently heard about a young lady being kidnapped while walking home from church here in the USA; she is still currently missing. It's one thing to hear about trafficking, but when it effects people you know, it hits too close to home.

Jesus said in Matthew 18:6 & 10, "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believes in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea...See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven." God sees and knows all. He is present with each and every child that suffers at the hands of the enemy. However, while God weeps over these little ones, we seem to be turning a blind eye.

Why isn't there a national outcry about children being taken into trafficking? Why do we accept the killing of babies and only feel outraged at their abuse after they are born? Why don't we weep over the attack on our most vulnerable? It's incredible to me that the #Metoo movement and the women's rights groups rail about how women should be able to make their own choices and that men should be brought to justice for crimes against women, yet not one word is spoken about women and children taken into trafficking. Abortion clinics kill millions of babies, many of them from black American families, every year in the name of convenience, but these babies were loved and created by God even in the earliest stages. Black Lives Matter and other civil rights groups cry out for justice for the innocent and express outrage for lives lost, but remain silent about the most vulnerable lives of all. When the world has gone crazy and is only concerned about themselves and their causes, the weak and vulnerable suffer the most and these are the ones Jesus sent us to minister to.

The Church is called to be salt and light, and when we cease to be salt and light Jesus said we will be thrown underfoot, no longer useful. I believe the Church needs to rise up everywhere and speak out for those who are oppressed and taken into slavery whether physical or sexual. We need to be the ones defending the cause of the weak and helpless. We need to pray and ask God what He would have us do about these injustices. Psalm 82:3 says, "Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and destitute. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them out of the hand of the wicked."

One lady we know prayed for the street kids in Nepal for many years. One day, the Lord spoke to her and said, "You need to stop praying and do something." She and her husband opened a children's home in Nepal next to the Christian school, and now they have 17 kids living in the home rather than living on the streets. My prayer is that everywhere God's Church would arise and stand up for Jesus, throwing off complacency and compromise. I pray that we would truly be salt and light to a lost and dying world. The world's only hope is Jesus!



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