

**Meditation 2014-02-27**  
**Feast of Saint Gabriel of the Most Sorrowful Virgin**  
**Meditation Theme: “Am I fit for Heaven?”**

**Place yourself** in the presence of Jesus Christ. Make sure He knows that every thought, action, and experience of today is dedicated exclusively to Him.

The Scenario: From the Gospel of today’s Mass

At that time they brought to Jesus young children, that he might touch them. And the disciples rebuked them that brought them. Whom when Jesus saw, he was much displeased, and saith to them: Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Amen I say to you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, shall not enter into it. And embracing them, and laying his hands upon them, he blessed them.

**Point 1.** – In this simple story of an actual event Jesus tells us who will be with Him in His eternal kingdom.

**Point 2.** – Jesus calls even the lesser ones to Him. He reminds us that He loves them. If we want to be loved by Him, we must be as children.

**Point 3.** – Jesus tells us that even adults can be as children, despite age and physical maturity. He describes the “attitude” that children have that should remain with all of us.

**Meditation:** How can I, an adult, become “as a little child?” God praises the ability of small children to accept the truth of what they are told by people they trust. If I tell an untruth to a child, he will nevertheless believe me because he has no concept of deception. He accepts the truth of what I say because I tell him it is so. Do I ever misrepresent the truth to someone who I know will believe me? Do I understand that a person who is “simple” (*though not necessarily stupid*) will believe anything I say because he trusts me? Are children only gullible? Am I the one who will teach them that people can be false?

Jesus tells us to accept the truth of what He says like little children do. Do I suspect Jesus of being false? Do I think He will try to teach me not to be gullible? Do I accept sound doctrine quickly and openly because I trust that He will not deceive me? Is my attitude like that of children – tell me and I will believe?

Jesus tells us that this is the attitude of all who inhabit Paradise. Will being a skeptic get me to salvation? Is skepticism a good thing when dealing with others? Are there others who will try to deceive me or take advantage of a trusting nature? Do I need to be skeptical with God? Do I believe in Him greatly enough to listen to what He tells me and say “Yes!” Do I need to work on it a bit more?

**Colloquy:** Take a minute or two to converse with God, in any of His three Persons, or the Triune God complete in Himself. Tell Him what you have learned from your meditation, and thank Him for it.

**Hold the Gain:** Consider what you can do to keep the fruits of your meditation. Try to plan how you can think of them through the day, and through the days ahead. Come up with ways you can apply your conclusions to what you do in your everyday life, conversations you engage in, the choice of what movie to watch, what books you choose to read.