

Beginner's Heart

Collect

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Look

Beginning a new endeavor requires a fresh approach, a thirst to learn, an open spirit, and even a willingness to fail.

1. Describe a time when you felt the excitement of beginning something new in your life. What made you willing to give it a try? What were the rewards?
2. Describe a time when fear or doubt kept you from engaging in a new opportunity. What was that like?

Book

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus addresses a tough crowd candidly, and offers hope and healing.

1. What is the human condition that Jesus observes in verses 16-19?
2. Why is Jesus thanking God for hiding things from the wise and revealing them to “infants”?
3. In what ways does Jesus choose to reveal the father to us? (v. 27)
4. Verses 28-30 offer great comfort. To lighten our loads we must basically trade our burdens for Jesus' lighter ones. How difficult is that for you? Why?

Took

Our stuff, our baggage is known and almost comfortable. We know because we've carried it a long time.

1. What worry or load can you give up to Jesus this week? How might that free you up to serve God more fully?
2. How can we practice having a beginner's heart?