



## LESSONS FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES

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While traveling across the country with the World Laughter Tour last year, Steve Wilson, Dr. Madan Kataria and I had the opportunity to spend a day speaking and laughing with different groups in Phoenix. Our last stop of the day was at a summer daycare for children who were around five to nine years of age. We introduced ourselves explaining that we were from Missouri, Ohio, and India.

When we asked the kids if they knew where India was, everyone's arm shot up, waving wildly and shouting, "I know! I know!" Steve pointed to a little boy on the first row and asked, "Okay, where's India?"

The child scrunched up his face and moaned, "I... forgot..."

Hands shot back up again. "I know!" "I know!" "Pick me!" "I know!"

I pointed to another little boy nearby and said, "Okay, where's India?"

He smiled from ear to ear and said confidently, "It's in Phoenix."

I responded slowly, "Ummmm, I don't think so."

He didn't miss a beat. "Well, it *used* to be!"

Later that evening, I recalled the incident and marveled at how every child had jumped at the opportunity to participate. They didn't hesitate raising their hands because they might not have the right answer, or because someone might think they were odd, or because they might look a little silly. They just wanted to have fun, to be part of the experience, and to relish in their own child-like enthusiasm.

How's your enthusiasm? Are you having fun? Are you missing out on opportunities because you're afraid others might be judgmental? I would encourage you to get back in touch with that child-like enthusiasm that we all once had, but seemed to lose along the journey to adulthood. Try laughing with child-like abandon and experience life from a not-so-grown-up perspective. I guarantee it will be more fun.

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