



Adventist[®]
Children's Ministries

**CENTRAL JAMAICA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT**

Week of Prayer

Theme: Children On A Mission

Theme Song: We Are On A Mission-Creative Kids Of Christ

Theme Text: 1 Timothy 4:12

Sermon 1: Sunday May 26, 2024

Topic: Called to Mission: God's Plan for Every Child

Written by: Pastor Dwayne Scott

Scripture: Isaiah 6:8 - "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"

Introduction:

Imagine being in a place where you hear a voice, a voice that is so powerful and full of love that it fills you with awe and wonder. This is exactly what happened to the prophet Isaiah. Let's dive into Isaiah's story and see what we can learn about being willing to serve God.

Point 1: God Calls Each of Us

The first thing we learn from Isaiah's story is that God calls each one of us. Just as God called Isaiah, He calls each of us to serve Him and others. Isaiah's encounter with the voice of God is one of the most profound moments in the Bible. It took place in the year that King Uzziah died, a time of political uncertainty and spiritual turmoil in Judah. Isaiah found himself in the temple, possibly seeking solace or guidance in the midst of the nation's distress.

Suddenly, Isaiah was overwhelmed by a transcendent experience. He heard a voice—a voice that resonated with power and love, echoing throughout the temple. This voice was not just any voice; it was the voice of the Almighty God, the Creator of the universe, speaking directly to Isaiah. Just as Isaiah responded to God's call with readiness and willingness, we too are called to listen for God's voice in our lives.

Point 2: Answering God's Call

Isaiah's response to God's call was simple yet profound: "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8). When God calls us, He doesn't force us to obey Him; instead, He gives us the freedom to choose. Just like Isaiah, we have a choice to make. Isaiah's response encapsulates both humility and courage. Despite being confronted with the awe-inspiring presence of God, Isaiah doesn't shrink back in fear or make excuses. Instead, he humbly offers himself as a willing vessel for God's service. This teaches us that when God calls us, He doesn't manipulate us. Instead, He invites us into a relationship where we have the freedom to choose whether to follow Him or not.

When we hear His call, like Isaiah, we are invited to respond with faith and obedience, ready to be used for His purposes. In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus tells His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations. This

command isn't just for the disciples back then; it's for us today too. God has a unique plan for each of us, and He invites us to be a part of His work in the world.

This freedom of choice underscores the profound nature of our response to God's call. It's not just about saying the words "Here am I. Send me!" but about the posture of our hearts. Will we respond with genuine obedience and readiness to be used by God, or will we resist His call and pursue our own desires? Isaiah's example challenges us to examine our own hearts and motives. Are we willing to surrender our plans and ambitions to follow God's leading, even when it may be uncomfortable or uncertain?

In Exodus 3:4, when God called Moses from the burning bush, Moses responded, "Here I am." Similarly, when Samuel heard God's voice in 1 Samuel 3:4, he said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." These examples show us that when God calls, He desires a willing heart and a readiness to obey.

Point 3: Trusting God's Plan

When Isaiah responded to God's call, he didn't know all the details of what God had in store for him. He didn't have a roadmap or a clear picture of the future, but he trusted in God's plan. Similarly, when God calls us, we may not always understand His ways or see the full picture, but we can trust that His plans are good (Jeremiah 29:11). Ultimately, Isaiah's response reminds us that answering God's call requires trust and faith. It means stepping out of our comfort zones and relying on God's strength and guidance. When we respond like Isaiah, with humility, courage, and trust, we open ourselves up to experience the incredible blessings and fulfillment that come from serving God wholeheartedly.

In Proverbs 3:5-6, we are encouraged to trust in the Lord with all our hearts and lean not on our own understanding. When we acknowledge God in all our ways, He promises to direct our paths. This means that even when things seem uncertain or scary, we can have confidence that God is with us every step of the way.

Conclusion:

Isaiah's story teaches us valuable lessons about answering God's call. Just like Isaiah, God is calling each of us to serve Him and others. He invites us to respond with obedience, willingness, and trust in His plan. As we listen to God's voice and follow His leading, we can experience the joy and fulfillment of being part of His kingdom work. So, when you hear God asking, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" remember Isaiah's response: "Here am I. Send me!"

Sermon 2: Monday, May 27, 2024

Topic: Little Disciples, Big Impact: The Power of Childlike Faith

Written by: Pastor Dean Thompson

Scripture: Matthew 18:3 - " And said, Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

My fellow boys and girls, did you know that we are special in God's sight; VERY SPECIAL TO JESUS? Did you know? Did you know that even though we are small, God can accomplish some great things through us? Did you know? Did you know that when we are in Jesus' hands, we can make a big impact? Let us look at a little story in Matthew 18:1-5

The disciples decided to ask Jesus a big question. They wanted to know who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. They were big men with a big question. Jesus was going to give them a big answer, but He needed a little child to help Him do it. So, "He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them." Matthew 18:2 Jesus called the little child and placed him among the big men. And do you know what Jesus said to those big men? Do you know? He said, "'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'" My fellow boys and girls, Jesus told the big men to become like little children. Can you imagine that?

These men must have felt greatly embarrassed for Jesus to be telling them that, especially in the presence of a child. But Jesus meant them no embarrassment. But they needed to learn a big lesson. Sometimes the God teaches us some lessons that may cause us to feel uncomfortable. But God's lessons are designed to help us grow and transform. They are never to hurt us. Why was Jesus telling those grown men to become like little children? Why were they required to emulate a child in order to be in the kingdom? Shouldn't the child be one to emulate the adult? Children in Jesus' day had little to no rights according to the Law. They were often not regarded, and ordinarily, would not be allowed to be around the adult men. But this little child was being used to teach these big men some big lessons. The disciples were behaving childish, but Jesus wanted them to learn how to be childlike.

Let me suggest three lessons they would have learned through this experience.

1. BEING IN THE KINGDOM IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT

The disciples thought that by virtue of them walking with Jesus as His disciples, it would be their right to be in the kingdom and even to have the greatest position. That is why the matter came up in the first place. But Jesus took a child who had no right in the society and suggested to them that that child had more right to the kingdom than they did. They needed to learn to humble themselves. The Bible Knowledge Commentary says, "Greatness in the kingdom was not based on great works or words, but on childlike humility of spirit."

2. BEING IN THE KINGDOM IS ABOUT CARING FOR OTHERS INSTEAD OF CARING FOR POSITION AND POWER

Little thought was directed in those days toward children, but Jesus did not overlook them. In fact, He gave a stern warning concerning any who might place a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in Him. It would be better for such an offender to have a large

millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. A truly humble person does not concern himself with position or power, but is concerned about active service, especially toward those who are most in need. Instead of thinking about position and power, these disciples should be more concerned about the wellbeing of the children and the less fortunate.¹

There are many around us today, in our church and in our wider society, who care more about position and power than about others. That kind of attitude will keep them out of the kingdom of heaven.

3. BEING IN THE KINGDOM IS NOT ABOUT COMPARING OURSELVES WITH EACH OTHER, BUT COMPLEMENTING ONE ANOTHER

Jesus' disciples tended to be always comparing themselves with each other, and trying to determine who would be likely to occupy the greatest position. James and John even, at one time, had their mother go to Jesus requesting that He give them the two highest positions in the kingdom (one on His left and the other on His right). Children usually do not have the biases and prejudices that adults do, unless that is inculcated to them from very early.

Children are naturally able to get along with each other, regardless of race, class, education and all the other things people use to categorize and stigmatize each other. When our hearts have been truly touched by Jesus, we will learn how to love one another and work harmoniously with each other.

BOYS AND GIRLS, LOOK AT THOSE BIG LESSONS JESUS USED A LITTLE CHILD TO TEACH. HE WANTS TO USE EVERYONE OF US AS WELL, IF WE LET HIM. HE WANTS TO USE OUR VARIOUS TALENTS AND ABILITIES TO MAKE A BIG IMPACT FOR HIM. IF WE WOULD LET HIM.

HE WANTS TO GIVE US THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING IN HIS KINGDOM; HE WANTS TO USE US TO LOVE AND CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER, AND HE WANTS US ALL TO COMPLEMENT ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE AND UNITY. BUT WE HAVE TO ALLOW HIM TO LIVE HIS LIFE THROUGH US AND DO HIS WORK THROUGH US. WILL YOU LET HIM?

BOYS AND GIRLS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IF YOU ARE WILLING TO ALLOW THE LORD TO WORK THROUGH YOU, PLEASE STAND WITH ME. IF YOU ARE WILLING TO LET HIM LIVE OUT HIS LIFE THROUGH YOU, PLEASE, COME TO THE ALTAR.

¹ Barbieri, Louis A., Jr. 1985. "Matthew." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, edited by J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, 2:61–62. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Sermon 3: Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Topic: Courageous Kids: Facing Challenges in God's Strength

Written by: Pastor Dwayne Scott

Scripture: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Introduction:

Once upon a time, in the land of Israel, there lived a brave leader named Joshua. He faced many challenges and obstacles, but he never lost faith in God's strength and guidance. Today, we're going to learn from Joshua's example as we explore the theme of courageous kids facing challenges in God's strength, inspired by Joshua 1:9.

Point 1: God's Command to Be Courageous

Joshua was chosen by God to lead the Israelites into the promised land after Moses passed away. Imagine the weight of responsibility on his shoulders! But God spoke directly to Joshua, saying, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Picture Joshua standing before the Israelites, his heart filled with uncertainty and doubt. But as he hears God's command and promise, he feels a newfound strength and courage welling up within him. With God by his side, he knows he can face any challenge that lies ahead.

In God's command, Joshua discovered not only a mandate but a promise—a promise of divine companionship and support through every trial and triumph. It was this assurance that emboldened him to step forward, to lead with unwavering courage, knowing that the God who called him would also sustain him. With every step, Joshua's faith grew stronger, his trust deeper, as he journeyed onward, guided by the assurance of God's unfailing presence.

Point 2: Facing Challenges with Faith

As Joshua led the Israelites across the Jordan River into the land of Canaan, they encountered many obstacles, including fortified cities and fierce enemies. But Joshua never wavered in his faith. He trusted in God's strength and guidance every step of the way. The land was inhabited by powerful nations, fortified cities, and formidable adversaries. Yet, Joshua remained steadfast, unwavering in his trust in God's promises. Imagine the scene as the Israelites approached the walled city of Jericho, a seemingly difficult fortress. Instead of succumbing to fear or doubt, Joshua sought God's guidance. In response, God revealed a bold and unconventional strategy: marching around the city for seven days, culminating in a triumphant shout that brought down its walls.

This event epitomizes Joshua's unwavering faith in God's power to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. He didn't rely on military might or human wisdom but trusted in divine intervention. Each victory—whether at Jericho, Ai, or elsewhere—was a testament to Joshua's faith and obedience to God's commands.

Through Joshua's leadership, the Israelites learned the invaluable lesson that victory comes not through human strength alone but through unwavering faith in God. His steadfastness inspired the people to persevere in the face of adversity, knowing that God was with them every step of the way. Joshua's faith-filled leadership continues to serve as a timeless example of reliance on God's strength and guidance. Imagine the Israelites standing at the edge of the Jordan River, their hearts filled with fear. But as Joshua raises his staff, the waters miraculously part, allowing them to cross on dry ground. It's a powerful reminder that with God, all things are possible, and there's no challenge too great to overcome.

Point 3: Finding Strength in God's Presence

Throughout their journey, Joshua and the Israelites faced countless battles and struggles. But through it all, they experienced God's faithfulness and presence. Whenever they felt afraid or discouraged, they remembered God's promise: "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Joshua 1:5). As he lifts his hands in prayer, he feels a deep sense of peace and assurance knowing that God is fighting alongside them. With God's strength, they emerge victorious time and time again, proving that nothing is impossible with Him.

Call to Action:

Dear children, just like Joshua, you may face challenges and uncertainties in your life. But remember, God has commanded you to be strong and courageous. He promises to be with you wherever you go, guiding and protecting you every step of the way. So, when you encounter obstacles or fears, trust in God's strength and lean on His promises. Step out in faith, knowing that He will never leave you nor forsake you. Be courageous kids, following in Joshua's footsteps, and facing challenges in God's strength. Let's pray: Heavenly Father, thank you for the example of Joshua, who faced challenges with unwavering faith in your strength and guidance. Help us to be courageous like him, trusting in your promises and knowing that you are always with us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sermon 4: Wednesday, May 29, 2024

Topic: Spreading God's Love: Children as Messengers of Hope

Written by: Pastor Dwayne Scott

Scripture: Matthew 28:19-20 - "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Introduction:

In a world often overshadowed by darkness and despair, the call to be messengers of hope resonates more deeply than ever. As young individuals navigating the complexities of life, we may wonder how we can make a meaningful impact. Yet, Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19-20 reveals a profound truth: even the youngest among us can carry the light of hope to the darkest corners of the world. Today, we explore five key points that empower children to embrace their role as messengers of hope.

Point 1: Embracing Our Identity in Christ

As children of God, we are called to reflect His love and compassion in all that we do. Our identity is not defined by our age or limitations but by our relationship with Christ. Just as Jesus commissioned His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, He calls us to share His message of hope with those around us. By embracing our identity in Christ, we discover the power and purpose to be agents of change in our communities and beyond.

Point 2: Cultivating a Heart of Compassion

Central to our mission as messengers of hope is cultivating a heart of compassion. Jesus' ministry was characterized by His compassion for the broken, the marginalized, and the lost. Likewise, we are called to extend compassion to those in need, offering a listening ear, a helping hand, and a message of hope. Whether it's volunteering at a local shelter, reaching out to a friend in need, or advocating for social justice causes, our acts of compassion can spark hope in the darkest of circumstances.

Point 3: Sharing Our Testimony

Each of us has a unique story to tell—a testimony of God's faithfulness and redemption in our lives. By sharing our testimony, we become living testimonies of God's transforming power. Whether it's through spoken word, written testimony, or acts of service, our stories have the potential to inspire and encourage others on their journey of faith. As messengers of hope, we boldly proclaim the good news of salvation, inviting others to experience the hope and freedom found in Christ.

Our testimony is a powerful tool for spreading the message of hope and redemption. In Revelation 12:11, it says, "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony." This verse highlights the importance of sharing our stories of God's faithfulness in overcoming challenges and trials. Just as the apostle Paul testified to God's grace and mercy in his life (Acts 22:15), we too can testify to the transformative work of God in our own lives.

Furthermore, in 1 Peter 3:15, we are encouraged to always be ready to give an answer for the hope that is within us. Our testimony serves as evidence of the hope we have in Christ and can serve as a light to

those who are searching for meaning and purpose in their lives. By sharing our stories, we point others to the ultimate source of hope—Jesus Christ.

Point 4: Standing Firm in Faith

In a world plagued by doubt and uncertainty, our unwavering faith serves as a beacon of hope to those around us. Just as Joshua and Caleb remained steadfast in their faith amidst adversity, we too are called to stand firm in the promises of God. Through prayer, study of Scripture, and fellowship with other believers, we strengthen our faith and resilience in the face of trials. Our steadfastness not only sustains us but also inspires others to place their trust in God's unfailing love.

Point 5: Empowering Others to Serve

As messengers of hope, we have the privilege of empowering others to join us in fulfilling Christ's great commission. By equipping and mentoring fellow believers, we multiply the impact of our efforts, reaching more lives with the message of hope. Whether it's through discipleship programs, youth outreach initiatives, or missions trips, we have the opportunity to ignite a passion for serving others and sharing the gospel. As we empower others to serve, we cultivate a community of hope-bearers, united in our mission to spread the love of Christ to the ends of the earth.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the call to be messengers of hope is not reserved for a select few but extends to each and every one of us—regardless of age or background. As youth and children, we have a unique opportunity to make a profound impact on the world around us. By embracing our identity in Christ, cultivating a heart of compassion, sharing our testimony, standing firm in faith, and empowering others to serve, we fulfill our God-given mandate to be messengers of hope. May we heed the words of Jesus and go forth with courage and conviction, knowing that He goes before us, equipping us to make a difference in the lives of those we encounter.

Sermon 5: Thursday, May 30, 2024

Topic: Hands and Feet of Jesus: Children in Action

Written by: Sis Roxanne Chambers

Scripture: James 2:17 - "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

Introduction:

Have you ever watched a tightrope walker in action? Picture this: a brave individual stepping onto a thin rope, high above the ground, like a superhero defying gravity. Let me tell you the incredible story of Charles Blondin, known as "The Daredevil of Niagara Falls." Charles was no ordinary man; he was a master of balance and bravery. People from far and wide gathered to watch him perform his breathtaking stunts. In the summer of 1859, he walked 160 feet above the falls several times back and forth between Canada and the United States as huge crowds on both sides looked on with shock and awe. Once he crossed in a sack, once on stilts, another time on a bicycle, and once he even carried a stove and cooked an omelette!

On July 15, Blondin walked backward across the tightrope to Canada and returned pushing a wheelbarrow, while blindfolded. The crowd was ecstatic, that they "Oooooohed" and "Aaaaahed!" It was obvious that they believed in him! Some stories reported that he asked his audience, "Do you believe I can carry a person across in this wheelbarrow?" Of course, the crowd shouted that yes, they believed! It was then that Blondin posed the question - "Who will get in the wheelbarrow?" Of course...none did. Many of us are just like that audience we believe to the point of action!

It's fascinating how Charles Blondin's daring stunts on the tightrope can teach us valuable lessons about belief and action. Despite the crowd's enthusiastic cheers and declarations of belief in his abilities, when the time came for someone to actually trust him by getting into the wheelbarrow, no one stepped forward. In the same way, many people claim to believe in God or have faith, but they may hesitate when it comes to taking action, such as attending church or practicing their beliefs in their daily lives.

They are many people who claimed to believe in God, but they will never enter a church. For us as children we sing, "I love you Jesus deep down in my heart", but yet we are unkind, disobedient to our parents and teachers, we never share our toys, and we never tell anyone about Jesus.

We say my God is so big! So strong and so mighty there is nothing that he cannot do! Yet we don't believe he can forgive our sins, change our hearts, and make us into light bearers for him. God is calling us not just to belief but to action.

Today our topic is: Hands and Feet of Jesus: Children in Action

Please turn your Bibles with me to James 2:17 - "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Let me share with you two points from this scripture.

1. Faith in God is not enough.

Jesus expects us to believe in him. Acts 16:31, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household. It's clear that belief in the Lord Jesus leads to salvation, but this belief is not merely academic; it's practical and life changing.

It is not enough to just believe in God. To just believe that he loves us and that He exist. He wants us to have a deeper experience with Him so that when persons see us, they will know we are in love with Him.

Consider it like receiving a new bicycle. You might believe it's a great bike and can take you on adventures, but until you actually ride it, you won't fully experience its potential. Similarly, God desires more than just our acknowledgment of his abilities or love; he longs for us to engage with him intimately. He wants us to experience his love directly through a personal relationship developed by reading his word and speaking with him through prayer. He's not content with us simply knowing about his miracles; he desires that we seek him, ask for what we need, and witness his provision.

Furthermore, God doesn't just want us to believe we can become better children; he calls us to actively resist temptations. He wants us to not fight back even when we are angry. To respond to our parents immediately even when we prefer to just continue watching the TV. This will allow him to transform our lives. It's through this process of faith in action that we truly experience the depth of God's love, power, and transformative work in our lives. So, let's not settle for mere belief; let's engage with God wholeheartedly and experience the abundant life he offers us.

2. God wants a living faith.

A living faith goes beyond what you believe into what you do. James 2:17 states - "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. The Bible tells a story of a little boy. It says "Josiah was eight years old when he became king..... 2 He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and followed completely the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left. (2 Kings 22:1, 2) When he found the book of the law he did not only believe in it but commanded that the entire country do what it says. God is calling us as children to not only believe in the mission of the church, to preach the gospel but be missionaries at home, school, church and in the community. To not just preach but live a life of obedience.

The existence and power of God, the truth of His Word, are facts that even Satan and his hosts cannot at heart deny. The Bible says that "the devils also believe, and tremble"; but this is not faith. Where there is not only a belief in God's Word, but a submission of the will to Him; where the heart is yielded to Him, the affections fixed upon Him, there is faith—faith that works by love and purifies the soul.

Jesus is our tight rope walker. He spread himself not on a rope but on a cross. He says I die that you might live. Do you believe that God can use your hand and feet to do his work. He says, "as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name".(John 1:12) God wants to empower us to do our best

To be Be obedient, Be pure, Be true, Be kind, Be respectful, Be attentive, Be helpful, Be cheerful, Be thoughtful, Be reverent.

If you want to be Jesus' hand and feet, please stand with me while I pray for with you.

Sermon 6: Friday, May 31, 2024

Topic: Missionary Hearts: Instilling Compassion in Children

Written by: Pastor Harrone Guthrie

Scripture: Matthew 25:40 - "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

Introduction:

Our scripture for today comes from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 25, verse 40, where Jesus speaks of compassion and kindness towards others. "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

Point 1: Understanding Compassion

Children, have you ever felt a warm feeling inside when you helped someone in need? That feeling is called compassion. It's when we care deeply about others and want to make their lives better. Jesus teaches us that when we show compassion to others, we are showing love to Him. Every act of kindness, no matter how small, is precious in His eyes. Compassion is a profound empathy that stirs within us when we see someone in need. It's a recognition of their suffering or struggle, coupled with a desire to alleviate it. When Jesus walked the earth, He exemplified compassion in His interactions with the sick, the marginalized, and the outcasts. He didn't just feel sorry for them; He actively sought to relieve their burdens and restore their dignity. Thus, when we show compassion to others, we emulate the heart of Christ. It's not just a feeling; it's a call to action, reflecting the love and compassion that Jesus showed throughout His ministry.

Imagine a little boy named Daniel. Daniel noticed his elderly neighbor struggling to carry groceries into her house. Without hesitation, Daniel rushed to help her, carrying the heavy bags with a big smile on his face. As he helped her, he remembered the words of Jesus, knowing that by helping his neighbor, he was showing love to Jesus Himself.

Point 2: Reaching Out Beyond Our Comfort Zones

Sometimes, showing compassion means stepping out of our comfort zones and reaching out to those who are different from us. Jesus wants us to love everyone, regardless of their background or circumstances. Just like Jesus reached out to the outcasts and the marginalized, we too are called to show love to everyone we meet. In the Bible, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). It's about a man who helped someone from a different group, showing that love crosses all boundaries. Also, in Matthew 5:43-48, Jesus says to love even our enemies, teaching us that love goes beyond our comfort zones. When we show kindness to someone different, we're obeying Jesus' command to love one another. It may feel scary, but with Jesus by our side, we can spread His love to everyone, making the world a brighter place.

Think about a girl named Sarah. Sarah was nervous about befriending a new student in her class who spoke a different language and wore different clothes. But she remembered Jesus' command to love others, so she decided to befriend the new student. Through small acts of kindness and friendship, Sarah and her new friend became inseparable, showing the power of love to bridge differences.

Point 3: Making a Difference, One Act of Kindness at a Time

Children, never underestimate the impact of your actions. Even the smallest act of kindness can make a big difference in someone's life. Whether it's sharing your toys with a friend, comforting someone who is sad, or standing up for someone who is being treated unfairly, each act of kindness is like a seed planted in the garden of love. In the Bible, Jesus praised a poor widow for giving just two small coins, emphasizing that her gift was more significant than those of the wealthy (Mark 12:41-44). This teaches us that even the smallest acts of kindness are valuable to God. When we share our toys, comfort a friend, or stand up for what's right, we're spreading love just like Jesus did. Each kind deed we do plants a seed of love in someone's heart, blossoming into a garden of compassion that brightens the world. So, never doubt the power of your actions to make a big difference!

Let me tell you the story of Emily, a little girl with a big heart. Emily noticed a homeless man sitting on a bench near her school every day. One cold winter morning, Emily decided to bring him a warm cup of hot chocolate and a blanket. The man's eyes filled with tears as he thanked Emily for her kindness. From that day on, Emily made it her mission to help the homeless in her community, showing that even a child can change the world with love.

Conclusion:

As we reflect on the words of Jesus, let us strive to cultivate missionary hearts in our children. Let us teach them to love others as Jesus loves us, to show compassion to the least of these, and to make a difference in the world through acts of kindness. Remember, dear children, every time you show love to others, you are showing love to Jesus Himself. Let us go forth from this place with hearts full of love and compassion, ready to be missionaries of God's love to the world.

Closing Song: "This Little Light of Mine"

(Sing a verse or chorus of "This Little Light of Mine" to encourage children to let their light shine through acts of love and kindness.)

May the love of God shine brightly through each and every one of you. Amen.