



**LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE
(Children's Story/Parable)**

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Did you know that you have a special message? It's true!

The Bible tells us that Jesus has given you a very special message – He is coming soon and we must be ready! Jesus also asked us to share this message so that everyone can be ready to go home to heaven. Just like the song, *This Little Light of Mine*, we should share our lights with others. And that instruction isn't just for the adults, it's for all of us of every age!

Let's look at a couple examples of when children were God's *light* to others.

The first story: little boy Samuel is a story from the Bible in 1 Samuel. As you may recall, when Samuel was old enough, his mother, Hannah, took him to the temple to be in God's house and help Eli, as she had promised God she would do. In the beginning, Samuel did small jobs around the temple, but when he got a little older, God spoke directly to him. Samuel listened to God and grew into a great prophet sharing God's message with others. Samuel was sharing God's light, his message, with everyone. He was an example to others by making good choices and always listening to God. From a little child, like you, to when he became an adult.

Also in the Bible, this time from 2 Kings, we find the story of another child in the Bible. Naaman was a great captain and saved his country by fighting battles. In one of the battles against God's people, Naaman found a young girl that he took home to help his wife. The Bible doesn't tell us her name, but we know about her *light*. This young girl, far from home, worked as a slave. She was honest, and kind, and good. But most importantly she had faith in God and knew God would take care of her. When she found out Naaman had a nasty disease called leprosy, the young girl suggested to her mistress that perhaps Naaman could visit the prophet Elisha in Israel to be cured of his disease. Elisha, like Samuel, was a great prophet of God. Because the young girl was so good, when Naaman heard her message he trusted her and decided to visit this prophet. Imagine his surprise when he was healed. Even the little maid was excited to see Naaman return home leprosy-free! She didn't do anything grand or travel far, but she was able to share her faith and God's love right where she was.

There are many ways to reach out and share your love and faith with others, even as children. You can spread Jesus' message with those in your own home, in your neighborhood and schools, with friends and your family members, even on the playground. You can invite your friends to Sabbath School or other church programs for children, you can share your church

papers with your friends, or you can tell people the stories you've learned in Sabbath School and church. You can do something kind for someone such as making a card or giving flowers when they are sick; making cookies or taking food, clothes or toys to someone in need; or praying with someone who needs encouragement. Sometimes just by telling a stranger "Good morning" and holding the door open for them can brighten their day.

It doesn't take much to make a positive difference when we share the love of Jesus with those around us. Let's have a short prayer and sing *This Little Light of Mine* as we return to our seats.