



**GOD'S MESSENGER  
(Children's Story/Parable)**

**February 6, 2016**

**Jackie Bishop**

In advance come prepared with a 'Jesus loves you' sticker or pencil or sticky note, two for each child in attendance. Greet each child by name and say, "Jesus loves you," as you give them their 'treat' or note.

Ask, "What about all the grown ups here today? Do you think they need to know Jesus loves them? How will they find out?"

"We could try yelling at them or throwing these (notes, pencils or stickers) at them. How would that work? What is another way to share these notes with them?" Children will finally conclude that the only way to get the treat or note to the adults is to take it to him or her. You can also divide the children in half and let them be the messengers to the other children.

Send the children as the "Messengers" to deliver the message and the treat to an adult of their choice Then, have them return to the story circle. Discuss how the adults wouldn't have known about the treat if the Messenger had never gone to share.

Say: There's a story in the Bible about a messenger named Isaiah, God asked him to go and give others a message of God's love. Isaiah thought that he was not good enough to bring the message. He even reminded God about the ugly words that he had spoken before. God told him that He had forgiven him and would give him kind and gentle words to share with other people. As soon as Isaiah heard that, he was excited and said, "Yes please forgive me and send me with kind and gentle words to be *Your* messenger!!" Ask: "How do you think Isaiah felt when God forgave him? Why do you think Isaiah was willing to go for God? Isn't it wonderful that God is asking us to be His messenger too?"

Discuss with children what it means to be a messenger for God at home, at school, in their community. Ask them to think of ways they will share the message of God's love with others this week in kind and gentle words. Close with a simple prayer asking Jesus to give each one of them kind and gentle words to help others learn about His love. (Use each child's name, if the size of your group permits.)