



TEACHING WITH WORDS AND ACTIONS (Children's Story)

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Hello, Boys and Girls! Happy Sabbath!

Has anyone ever told you not to do something, because it's wrong? And then it turns out that the person didn't follow their own advice and did that wrong thing?

Would you believe that person the next time they told you something? Why? That's right! It's hard to trust someone who says good things and does wrong things. It's sad [put on a sad face], but in a way sometimes we do that. You may be wondering [thoughtful face] how do we do that? Well, I'll tell you: when we use bad words, when we lie, when we disobey our parents, etc., we are making the wrong choices. When we do all these things and say that we're Christians, we are not behaving like Christians.

When Jesus was on earth, He didn't just teach with words, He also cared about showing love with His actions. Although many people judged Him, Jesus never did anything that was contrary to what He taught.

Once Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan. A man had been attacked by robbers and was left hurt on the road. As it turned out, a priest was traveling along, saw him and passed by. Next, a Levite passed by, and when he saw the injured man, he, too, turned aside and kept on walking. But a Samaritan who was traveling saw the man and felt compassion. The Samaritan helped him by bandaging his wounds and taking him to an inn so the injured man had a comfortable place to get better.

Love for others should be manifested both in words and actions (healing, feeding the hungry, showing mercy, being obedient to God's law, etc.). In Matthew 4:23 and 5:17, we find that Jesus did all of these things. Since He was a child, Jesus was obedient to His parents, always ready to help and in this way showed love to His neighbors.

Dear children, Jesus wants each one of us to reflect His love to all those around us; with words and with actions wherever we are—at home, at school, playing in the yard, etc. And when we do those kind things, people will not only see that we are God's children, but they will believe in God, and they will believe His gospel.

Let's pray for God to help us be little lights that reflect His love to everyone and everywhere.