



**AINSLEY THE LITTLE LEADER  
(Children's Story/Parable)**

**May 9, 2020**

**Pastor Kandace Zollman  
Spencerville Church**

*[Optional Activity: Where possible, arrange a donation of school supplies for local children or even art supplies for a senior center. Or perhaps arrange a volunteer activity Sabbath afternoon in which children and adults can participate.]*

“Where are you going, Mommy?”

Ainsley's mother was putting on her coat and looking for her car keys.

“I have to go to the Church Board meeting tonight,” Mommy said.

“I want to go with you!” Ainsley volunteered.

“I'm sorry, honey,” Mommy replied. “This meeting is only for the leaders of the church.”

“But I want to be a leader in the church too!” Ainsley said confidently.

Mommy thought a lot about what Ainsley said and made an appointment for Ainsley to talk with her pastor (or other church leader) about leadership. The pastor asked Ainsley to tell her more about why she wanted to be a leader, and Ainsley said that she thought Jesus could use kids too. The pastor totally agreed with Ainsley, and together they prayed for Jesus to show Ainsley ways that she could be a leader in her church.

The church was asking for its members to donate pencils and notebooks and crayons for children who didn't have school supplies, and soon Ainsley was helping sort bags of different items, carefully putting them in back packs. When members of her church went to a nursing home to do an activity with the residents there, Ainsley sat next to an elderly lady and talked with her about Jesus as the two of them painted flowers on rocks together. She helped Daddy with setting up the sound system at church, and even was asked to tell a story to the other children during church on Sabbath! When she decided to cut off her long, flowing hair to give it to a company that made wigs for children who have no hair, her pastor/pastor's wife grew her hair long so that she could be like Ainsley and donate her hair too.

“Ainsley, Jesus has really answered our prayers. He has given you a beautiful loving heart, and uses you in so many ways to encourage all of us. You really ARE a leader in our church,” the pastor smiled.

“Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12