



Do you know what a soldier is? A soldier is a person who keeps our country safe and free. Soldiers protect us from people who want to hurt us. Sometimes soldiers have to go to battle. They have to fight with weapons and tanks. Even our Pope, Benedict XVI, the leader of the Catholic Church, has an army called the Swiss Guard. God has an army, too. His army is bigger and stronger than all the armies in the world because it is made up of all the angels, the saints, and all people who love Him. Would you like to join God's army? What do you need to join God's army? I'll give you some hints. You won't need combat boots. You won't need a helmet or canteen full of water. You won't need a tank. You won't need bullets or a rifle, because you will never have to fire a single shot. So, what will you need? To join God's army all you need is a heart full of **Love!**

If your heart is full of love for God you will want to tell everyone you know and new people you meet about God. You will want to share everything you learned this week in Catholic Kidz Camp. There is a special name for people who share what they know about God with other people. The name is **missionary**. As a member of the Catholic Church you are called to help spread the teachings of Jesus and to be a good example for others to follow. All of you are called to be missionaries.

You can start TODAY! RIGHT NOW! THIS VERY SECOND! You do not have to wait until you graduate from high school. You don't have to wait until you get a driver's license. You don't have to be rich or famous.

You don't have to travel across the ocean. You can be as small as Saint Martin's mouse and be a missionary. Do you remember this morning's skit with Jonah and the Whale? What did God ask Jonah to do? (Go to the city of Nineveh and tell the people to say they are sorry for offending God.) Did you know Jonah was the *first* missionary?

(show children a box of assorted chocolates)

Does anyone know what this is? Yes, a box of chocolates! (open the box) Are all the pieces of chocolate exactly the same? NO! They are **assorted!** They are different sizes, different shapes and different colors, just like you! All of the saints you learned about this week were **assorted!** They were different colors, sizes, and shapes. They were different ages and were born in different parts of the world, but they were the same because they were all missionaries. They chose to say "**Yes**" to whatever God wanted them to do. They spread the message of the Gospel or "Good News" of Jesus wherever they traveled. They practiced the virtues of faith, hope and love. This was not always easy to do. They made good choices that were sometimes very hard. Our Blessed Mother, Mary, the greatest saint of all said, "Yes" to God. She said, "Yes" when asked to be the mother of Jesus. Today she is called *The Queen of Heaven*.

Call on a volunteer to read the Bible passage "**You are the light of the world.**" (Matthew: 15:14b) Why is Jesus calling you a light? The light is God's love in your heart. You are like a bright light that shows off God's love. Your light should not be hidden, but should shine for everyone to see. Your light shines bright when you share God's love with others. It shines even brighter when you say, "Yes" to God and follow the example of the saints!

(Pass around the box of chocolates for the children to share)