



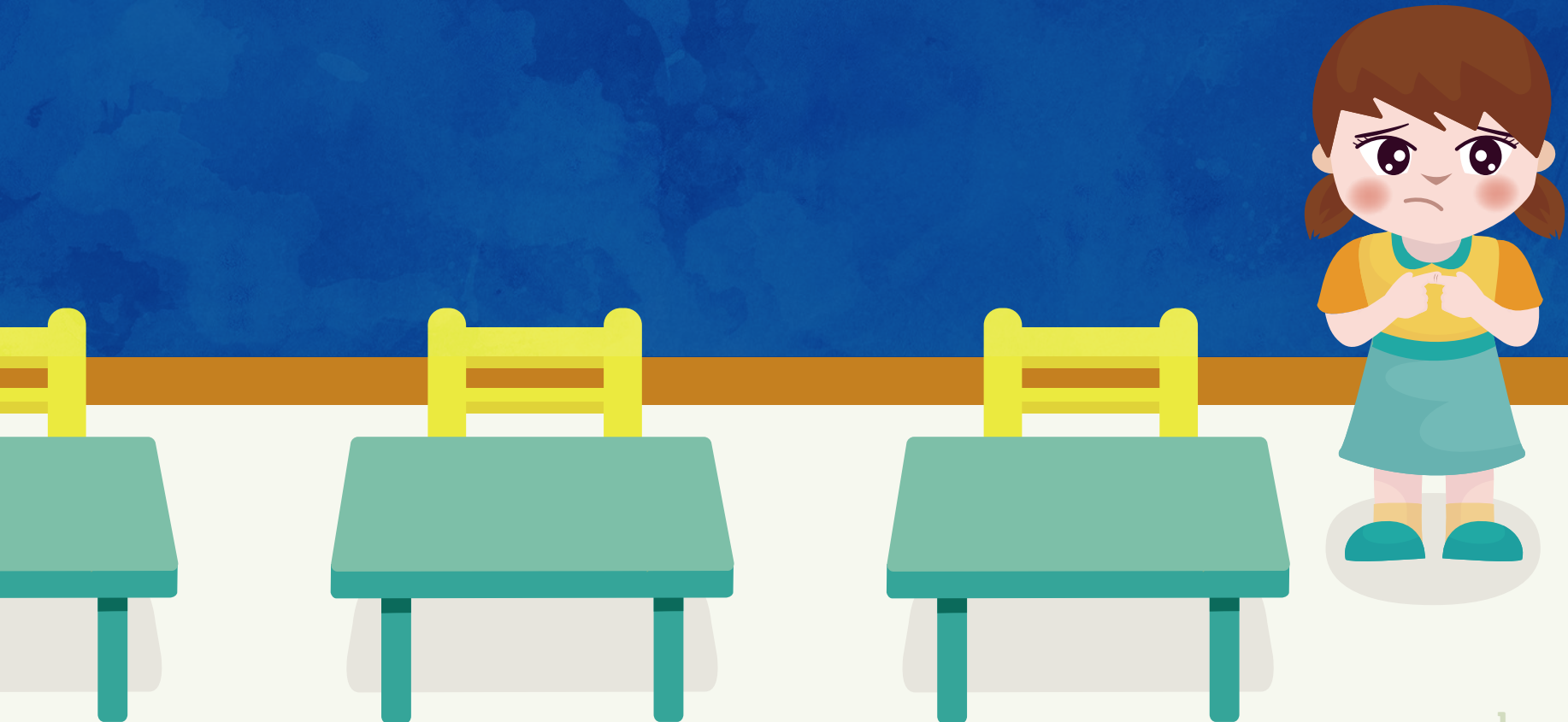
A young Israelite girl

First Day of School

LITTLE FLOCK®



On the first day of school, there were many children in the classroom. Some children had big smiles on their faces, some children were crying and yelling, and some of them were running and jumping around everywhere. Several children were staring into space and looked absent-minded while one or two kids were looking around curiously. However, Lulu just sat in the corner all by herself.



Alexander saw Lulu sitting quietly in the corner and teased her. He rudely poked her back with his fingers. Lulu was shocked and began crying loudly. Her crying caused a commotion in the classroom. All the children came and surrounded Lulu to see what happened. Jade patted Lulu's shoulder and tried to comfort her, saying, "What's wrong? Don't cry."



Lulu's eyes were swollen from weeping, so she pointed to Alexander and mumbled, "I am afraid because he hit me. Waaaaaaah.... ." Jade turned her head and asked Alexander, "Why did you hit her?" He shrugged and said, "I just poked her in the back because I wanted to talk to her."



Jade said seriously, “ My mom said that when we want to know someone’s name, we have to ask politely and say ‘Who are you?’ and ‘What’s your name?’”

Embarrassed, Alexander said, “Oh! I am sorry!”



Alexander spoke to Lulu softly, “Hello! What’s your name?” Lulu answered in a low voice, “Lulu.” Alexander asked again, “What’s your name? I cannot hear you. Please say it again!” Lulu blushed and was speechless.



Jade explained to Lulu gently. “You have to speak loudly, so that everyone can hear you. My mom once told me a story of a young Israelite girl. That girl was taken captive to Syria to be a maid of General Naaman’s wife. Naaman had a terrible skin disease, but because that brave girl bore a testimony to Naaman’s wife, Naaman’s disease was healed.” Lulu answered in a low voice, “Lulu.” Alexander asked again, “What’s your name? I cannot hear you. Please say it again!” Lulu blushed and was speechless.



Jade held Lulu's pale and cold hands, and said, "Don't be afraid. We are friends! Just say your name out loud. If you don't have the courage to speak loudly, you can pray in silence in your heart and ask the Lord Jesus to help you."



After Lulu prayed inside in her heart, she opened her mouth and spoke loudly. Finally, she said in a clear voice, “I am Lulu.” Suddenly, Lulu felt that she received strength and became stronger! All the children smiled happily. Alexander and Jade held Lulu’s hands to dance and sing merrily, while Jade felt a warm, fuzzy feeling coming from the bottom of her heart that she had never felt before!

