

# A Scout is Friendly

by Joanne Osmond

Isaac was walking down the hall at school fast. He only had a few minutes to get to his homeroom. Most of the other students had vacated the hallways, but three boys approached Isaac laughing and pointing behind them.

“I wonder what’s so funny?” Isaac thought as he hurried around the corner. A small boy was walking through a doorway at the end of the hall. He moved slowly looking down at his shoes as he shuffled into his room. Isaac didn’t have time to stop and talk to him, or he would be even later. However, Isaac was concerned and didn’t have a good feeling about what might have happened before he walked past the laughing boys.

During the day, Isaac thought about the boy with his head bowed entering slowly into his classroom. At lunch, Isaac looked for the boy and didn’t see him. He sat next to his friend Atticus. Until last month, Atticus had been in his Cub Scout Den, but he crossed over and was a Boy Scout now.

Smiling, Atticus asked, “Isaac, what are you doing in Cub Scouts?”

“This week we are working on computers and communication. It should be fun, so our den leader wants us to invite our friends but all of my friends are already scouts.” Isaac answered.

Atticus nodded thoughtfully, “I have a cool idea. Why don’t you invite the boys from Mrs. Graham’s class?”

Isaac didn’t know much about Mrs. Graham’s class. Some of the students were in his gym class and they didn’t always participate. He wondered if they would want to participate in Cub Scouts.

Atticus noticed that Isaac hesitate, “We invited them to our pizza party then we went bowling, it was fun. Some of the kids are more like us than different.”

Isaac nodded, “I think that would work.” As he walked back to his class, he wondered what he could do to introduce myself to the boys in Mrs. Graham’s class.

During the afternoon, Isaac tried to figure out the detail, but didn’t feel very confident that it would work. What would the other scouts say? Isaac was still thinking about what he should do while he was doing his homework.

He looked at the invitation that his den leader gave him, maybe they wouldn’t want to come with him. What if something went wrong in the meeting? He was the denner and felt responsible to make sure the meetings went well and everyone was included. It would be embarrassing if the Den Meetings didn’t go well. “I guess it isn’t a good idea after all, Isaac decided. But, he didn’t feel good about that decision either. “I am definitely confused. Maybe if I pray, I will know if I am making the right decision.”

After praying, Isaac still did not feel right doing nothing but he still didn’t know what to do. He received the distinct impression he should talk to his mom. When Isaac went downstairs, he found his mom folding clothes. “I need your opinion about inviting some boys from my school to Cub Scouts.”

Isaac’s mom smiled, “I think it is a great idea to invite boys to Cub Scouts!”

“Well, my den leader suggested that we each invite a friend on Wednesday night, but all of my friends are already Cub Scouts, so Atticus thought it would be a good idea to invite the boys in Mrs. Grahams.”

Isaac’s mom was quiet for a few minutes. Isaac knew she liked the ideas because she had a smile on her face. “I think it is a great idea, but we will have to walk through the how it will play out. First, I think you will need to make invitations to give to all the boys. Make sure my phone number is on the invitation so that the boys’ moms can call me and learn more about the program. I will call the school and explain and you can deliver the invitations tomorrow. I am sure that some of the parents are going to be interested if the boys aren’t in scouts already.”

Shaking his head in agreement, Isaac headed upstairs to write his mom’s phone number on the invitations he had ready to take to school.

At School, Isaac was nervous as he approached his teacher and asked her permission to go to Mrs. Graham’s class. His teacher gave him a strange look until he explained what he wanted to do. He handed her one of the invitations, then she smiled and handed him a hall pass as she handed the invitation back to him. “Good luck,” she said as he walked out the door.

Isaac stopped in front of Mrs. Graham’s door and hesitated. He suddenly realized that this was the same room that the boy had entered after he was laughed at by the three boys. “I wonder if the boy is in Mrs. Graham’s class. Probably,” he thought.

Now he was more determined than ever to invite the boys to come to his Den Meeting. Mrs. Graham hesitated to allow Isaac to speak to the boys in the class. So once again, he explained what he wanted to do and showed her the invitation. She gave her approval and Isaac talked to the boys about the fun he had at Cub Scouts then he invited the boys in the class to join him Wednesday night.

After reading the invitation, Mrs. Graham assured Isaac that she would put them in their backpacks to take home, “I am sure their parents will read them.”

Isaac smiled at the boy in the front row. “I hope you can come,” Isaac said.

After school when he walked in his back door, his mother smiled. “Guess who called me today?”

Before Isaac could answer, she continued. “One of the boys in Mrs. Graham’s class wants to come to your Cub Scout meeting. His mom called to get more information and his is coming over to our house to go with you. He is a little shy so Tommy’s mom said he can come to our house with you after school to get to know you better.”

When class let out the next day, Isaac was nervous as he stood outside Mrs. Graham’s class and waited for Tommy. As Tommy joined Isaac, they both froze as the three boys who had laughed at Tommy, yesterday turned the corner at the end of the hall.

Isaac put his arm around Tommy and smiled at the boys. The boys had puzzled looks on their face as they approached and one of the group asked, “Isaac, is he your friend?”

“Yes, and we are going to our Cub Scout meeting” Isaac proudly announced.

“That is cool,” one of the boys said as they walked away.

Isaac remembered what his den leader said, “A Scout is kind.” He felt good about his decision to take Tommy with him to Cub Scouts. Best of all he had a new friend.