

it kept on growing, but never straightened out ; and now you have seen it,—a crooked old tree, all because it got bent when it was little.

Lesson—Now let me tell you King Josiah began when he was very young to grow straight and true. Our Lesson tells us " he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined (bent) neither to the right hand, nor to the left " to do any wrong thing, and " while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David ".

Idols were again worshiped in his land, and Josiah knew this was wrong, and as soon as he was able to do so, he had all the idols burned, etc., vs. 3-7. Then he sent men to repair the house of the Lord his God, which had been broken down during the reigns of the wicked kings before him.

A Shining Life—Now don't you think Josiah began his life in the right way ? As he grew older his life kept straight and true. This is why we say his life shines like a star above those of all the wicked kings before him.

Golden Text—Print Golden Text—"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

Children's Service—God wants children to

serve him. Perhaps you cannot do very much while you are little ; but you can help to stop idol worship (mission work). You can serve God by being at Sunday School and church, and reverently worshiping Him there. You can serve Him in your play by obeying Jesus' laws, " Love one another ", " Be ye kind ", etc. You can serve Him by helping others,— " Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me " (Explain).

God wants all children—

" Once again, dear Lord, we pray,

For the children far away,

Who have never even heard

Jesus' name, our sweetest word.

" Little lips that Thou hast made,
'Neath the far-off temple's shade
Give to gods of wood and stone
Praise that should be all Thine own.

" Teach them, O Thou heavenly King,
All their gifts and praise to bring
To Thy Son, who died to prove
Thy forgiving, saving love ! "

Hymn—Sing, " Jesus bids us shine ", etc.

Something to Think About—I should serve God.

FROM THE PLATFORM

8 YEARS	8 YEARS	4 YEARS	6 YEARS

Draw a line on the blackboard, and divide it by cross lines into four sections, making them so as to represent the periods in the life of Josiah referred to in the Lesson. Bring out, by questions, what is known of the young king in each of these periods. During the first period of eight years, he is seen as a child growing up in the court of the wicked king Amon. Likely his mother Jedidah (see 2 Kgs. 22 : 1) was a good woman and trained him in right ways. Coming to the throne at eight years of age, for the second eight-year period he would be under the guidance of his mother and his counselors. It was at the age of sixteen that he is said to have begun to seek the Lord. Emphasize the truth that it is at this age or earlier that most decisions for God are made. Four years later he began the work of destroying idolatry in Judah and Jerusalem, and six years after that, to repair the temple. Urge, in closing, the importance of choosing the service of God in early life.