

FOR TEACHERS IN THE SENIOR DEPARTMENT

By Rev. J. M. Duncan, D.D.

Teachers in the Senior Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the HOME STUDY QUARTERLY OF LEAFLET.

Begin the lesson with some conversation about Joshua, reminding the scholars of his being chosen as the leader of Israel in the place of Moses and of his bringing the Israelites safely across the Jordan. Refer to the great gathering at Shechem and the parting words of Joshua to his people at that place.

Emphasize the position of leadership which Joshua held and the powerful influence which he exercised over his people. Speak also of the elders and their influence. Bring out the effect of this leadership,—“the people served the Lord.” Discuss the secret of the influence of Joshua and the elders, following the suggestion of v. 10,—“the works which he (the Lord) had done for Israel.” Bring out the truth that the Lord had been working, through Joshua, and the elders.

Turn next to the discussion of what happened in Israel after the death of Joshua and the elders. (See vs. 11-15.) Have the scholars describe the ways in which the

people sinned and the consequences which their sin brought upon them.

Now point out (see v. 16) that the Lord did not leave his people to perish in, and for, their sins. Discuss the work of the judges,—the deliverance of their people from their enemies and oppressors. Emphasize the fact that it was God who raised up these judges and gave them strength for their task.

Having shown how God worked through these “national leaders” in Israel, direct the conversation to ways in which God works through national leaders to-day. Bring out who these leaders are:—those who make our laws and see that they are carried out; those who teach in schools and colleges; those who preach in our churches, etc.

In the closing moments, impress the lesson that, if God is working through our national leaders, we should give them due respect and honor, following them as those whom God has appointed to guide us.

FOR TEACHERS IN THE INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT

By Rev. C. F. McIntosh, B.D., Campbellford, Ont.

Teachers in the Intermediate Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the INTERMEDIATE QUARTERLY OF LEAFLET.

The new six months' course of studies, beginning with this lesson, should prove exceptionally interesting to Intermediate pupils. No intelligent Christian will lack the desire to know the history of that nation with which Christianity is so closely related. And it is the early heroes of Israel who will rise before us from week to week. You will be greatly aided in your teaching, if at the beginning you get clearly in mind the main features of the period beginning about 1200 B.C. and extending over about two centuries. A good map of Palestine should be used freely, to make the stories real in the pupils' mind.

A Strong Leader's Influence, vs. 6-10. Have the class tell what they know of the familiar story of Israel's entrance into the Promised Land. The difficulties are well portrayed in the report of the spies. (See

Num. 13:28, 29.) Make it clear that the inhabitants of Canaan were not all killed or driven out. Question the pupils concerning the greatest dangers of their presence among the Israelites. What part did Joshua play in keeping the Israelites true to Jehovah? What is the significance of his name? Discuss the opportunity and the responsibility for leadership in our respective groups.

A People Degenerating, vs. 11-13. Describe the Balaam and Ashtaroth. What peculiar temptations did they present?

Why would the idolatry of the Canaanites naturally appeal more strongly than the spiritual worship of the Israelites? As far as possible, secure answers to these questions from the pupils. Speak about the influence of our companions, and of the things daily before our eyes. “We first endure, then