

through his kingdom to teach it? Did it help the people to know God's word? Can you think of any way in which it helped them? Now we shall learn about a king who loved God's house so much that he wanted it to be all sweet and beautiful. Some people want their own houses to be fine and beautiful, but do not seem to care if God's house is old and poor. Is that right? No, we should love God's house so much that we would be glad to deny ourselves to make his house a pleasant place.

Joash was the king of Judah who was sad when he saw how the beautiful temple which Solomon built about a hundred and fifty years before had been allowed to fall into ruins. There had been some wicked kings since the time of Asa and Jehoshaphat, and they had let heathen worshipers carry away the treasures from the temple, and now, perhaps, even the very walls were beginning to crack from age and neglect. Maybe the young king loved the temple the more because his life had been saved by being hidden there when he was a little boy and his wicked aunt wanted to kill him so that she might sit on the throne. If you do not know this story, ask your mamma or papa to tell it to you when you go home.

Working for God's house. Do you think the king would be so rich that he could give all the money himself to repair the Lord's house? But even if he had been rich enough to do this, it would not have been wise or right. Joash wanted to win the hearts of the people back to the worship of God, and so he wanted them all to do something which would make them think about the temple, and feel that they had a part in it. So the king had a large chest made with a hole in the cover through which to drop money, and set it outside the gate of the temple. Each

enough to make the Lord's house bright and beautiful. How happy the people were then; and do you not think the Lord was pleased as he looked down from heaven?

How to love and work. We find in this story that the people rejoiced to give. God wants us to give gladly to help his work, and we shall do this if we love him. A little boy said to his mamma, when she asked him to keep a mite box for missions, "I don't want to give my money to the old heathen!" There must be love in the heart to be able to give in the way God likes to see us give.

[Teach "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver," and close with some familiar giving song.]

Kindergarten Hints.

KINDERGARTEN DEPARTMENT. The Temple Repaired. 2 Chron. 24. 4-6, 8-14.

GOLDEN TEXT. "And the men did the work faithfully." 2 Chron. 34. 12.

AIDS TO THE KINDERGARTNER. Holy Bible, 2 Chron. 20, 21; *Old Testament History* (Smith).

ATTENTION STORY.

Different kings ruled over the people, and by and by it came to be that a little boy was made king. His name was Joash, and he was seven years old when his turn came to sit upon the throne. So young and small! What could he do? He was king for many years, and his minister, the priest in the temple, was his friend. This book tells us what kind of a boy he was. [Read verse 2], "And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord." He did right. That was a beginning which was good enough for any boy or any king. Joash found that his work was to mend the church (repair the temple). You see each person had his work to do then, as now. Each little child has a place and a work all his own. The new king told the ministers and the people to go to the cities and get money to pay for mending the church. They did not bring much, so the king commanded that a large treasure box should be made and put beside the gate of the church. Then he sent out word to everyone that all should bring in a collection to the Lord, and the princes and people brought in money till the box was full. This box was called a chest. We will read the story here. [Read 2 Chron. 24. 4-11.] Then the king and the minister paid masons and carpenters for doing the work. [Read verses 12-14.]

Explain in simple language the meaning of "wrought," "proclamation," "abundance," "perfected," etc.

OUTLINE.

On Sunday dwell upon the three great thoughts of this lesson, which are: 1. The individual work. 2. Giving unto the Lord. 3. Faithfulness. The latter subject is the topic of the



day the chest was unlocked and the money taken out, and it was not long before there was money

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Isa. 6