

would forgive them and love them and forget that they had ever been bad, and would bless and help them.

I wonder if you remember the Bible story about Joseph and his brothers. (Recall story.) Their father had two names, Jacob and Israel. (Explain.) All Joseph's brothers and their children and all their relations who went down to live in Egypt were called the children of Israel. God loved them very much and took especial care of them. Do you remember how God led them away from the cruel people of Egypt who were very unkind to them? (Recall story.) God led them to the Promised Land, the beautiful land of Palestine, and gave it to them for their home.

They had lived so long with the wicked Egyptians that they had learned their bad ways (the influence of bad companions.) Show an idol or a picture of one. Can it speak or move or help people in any way? (Psalm 135: 15-17.) Would you believe? the people of Egypt made all sorts of idols and prayed to them and built grand temples for them. They called them their gods. (Repeat First Commandment.) Sad to say, the children of Israel disobeyed God and learned to pray to those lifeless

idols. They learned to do many other bad things also in Egypt.

God was very much grieved. He told one of His good wise men—the prophet Hosea—to speak to the people and tell them to throw away their idols and come back to their own true God and Father. Hosea begged them to give up all their sins and ask God to forgive them. He told them God would forgive and love and bless them again. They did give up their idols and said (Golden Text). Hosea said some words I want you to remember. (Repeat "For the ways of the Lord are right.")

**Practical Thoughts**—If we love anything more than we love God, we are just as bad as the children of Israel. Many boys and girls think more about their dress and their pleasures than of God. We all have sinned. God is always sending an invitation to come back to Him. (Through His Book, the words of parents, Sabbath School teachers and ministers). God wants you to come to Him now. Give the invitation to others also.

(Give each child an envelope addressed to himself, with the Golden Text written on a card enclosed.)

## LESSON II.—July 9, 1899

DANIEL IN BABYLON, Daniel 1: 8-21

**PREVIEW THOUGHT: The Lord blesses and helps**

**Golden Text**—Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself.—Dan. 1: 8.

**To-day's Lesson Thought**—We should dare to do right at all times.

**Connection**—Do you remember the invitation you got last Sunday? Who said these words? What had the children of Israel done? Did God want them to come back to Him? Does He want us to come? Should we come?

**The Lesson**—Show some pease and beans in the pod and talk about the good, plain, wholesome food that makes us grow strong.

Something like these grew in Babylon, and people called it pulse. I am going to tell you about a boy who chose to eat pulse and drink water rather than eat the meats and rich food and drink the wine from a king's table because he thought it was right.

This boy's name was Daniel. We shall put him on the board, so that we shall think about him all the time. He belonged to the children of Israel, and lived in Jerusalem. One day a great king, Nebuchadnezzar (a stroke with a crown above it), came with his soldiers to Jerusalem and took a great many of the children of Israel captives