did faith, and the loyalty which would run a great risk rather than suffer what might seem like dishonor to his God. Here was one of God's heroes. We cannot but connect the preliminary fast with this courageous attitude of Ezra's. Is it not true now as ever that no boasted might of man can be in any way comparable to the divine strength which takes possession of those who completely surrender their wills to God?—Expositor's Bible.

Prove from Scripture

That we should give ourselves to God.

Lesson Questions

[From the Home STUDY QUARTERLY]

Juniors—Name the leader of the Jews who first returned from Babylon to their own land. Who led those who now returned? 21 Where did Ezra gather his people? Whither were they going? Whom did they ask to guide them?

22, 23 Who had Ezra said would protect him and his followers? What enemies had they to fear? From whom did they ask help? Did God hear their prayer?

24-30 What treasure did the Jews take with them? Who had charge of it?

31-32 How long did the journey to Jerusalem take? What was Ezra's great work there?

Seniors and the Home Department-

How was the building of the temple stopped? When was it resumed? Completed? What interval between the completion of the temple and the return under Ezra?

21-23 What was the purpose of the fast at Ahava? What is required of us if we would have true success? (Josh. 1:7.)

24-30 What was the value of the treasure mentioned in these verses? Describe the freewill offering. What offering should we make? (Rom. 12:1.)

31, 32 To whom is the safety of the returning exiles ascribed? On whom does our well-being depend? (Ps. 127: 1, 2.)

The Catechism

Ques. 102. The Lord's Prayer-its second petition. There are two points in this Question: (1) The kingdom of God-what it is. Here the words mean, not God's rule as Creator over all He has made, but His authority in the hearts of men renewed by His Spirit and yielded to His sway. It is called "the kingdom of grace," because the men can enter it only by having their hearts changed, and for this, divine power is needed. A second name is "the kingdom of glory," because the time is coming when all opposition to its King and laws will be destroyed. (2) The kingdom of God-how it grows: (a) "The kingdom of Satan" must be overthrown; (b) Men must be gathered one by one into the kingdom of God, and kept in it.

FOR TEACHERS OF THE LITTLE ONES

Lesson Subject—God redeeming His people by guiding them to their own land.

Review—You may help to print the name of the beautiful young queen we heard about

last Sunday. Do you remember about the plot that wicked man Haman made? Do you remember the way Queen Esther went to the king to beg him to save the lives of her people? How kind the king was to her and to Mordecai and to all her people! After King Ahasuerus died, the new king was kind to God's people, too, and allowed all who wished, to go back to Jerusalem.

A Camping Party—Have you ever seen a camping party—men, women and children living

