

opposition of the mongrel Jews, union with whom would have meant debasing the fine spiritual religion of the former exiles, and the consequent delay of fifteen years; (5) the completion and dedication of the temple. The heart of the lesson for the boys and girls is in the building of the altar,—in the fact that the Jews early in their new life placed God at its centre and worshiped him publicly; and that they keep the ideal, the vision of the temple clearly before them all the time. The boys and girls may be too young to enter fully into communion with God through fellowship in his church. In the Sunday School, however, they may find their altar, an altar which should lead ultimately to worship in the temple if the vision of the temple is kept clear, and constant before their eyes. Emphasize the incompleteness of the life which is lived without religion.

After bringing out the incident of the story in its several scenes, and connecting the "altar" with the "Sunday School," make clear some of the more important advantages in attendance at Sunday School. Why do boys and girls go to day school? It is to get

an education, to be trained to take their place with men and women in the social and economic relationships of life. Emphasize that in the Sunday School we receive religious education; we are trained to take our place in God's society throughout all eternity.

The boys and girls will tell you that what is good for them is good for other boys and girls as well. If you think it advisable you might arrange a contest amongst the scholars for securing new members for any department of the School. In a boys' class averages could be worked out after the nature of the batting averages in a baseball club. Each new scholar brought, who is not an attendant at any other Sunday School, would count as a base hit. The same new scholar would count as a hit each time he is brought during the month or six weeks the contest lasts. Two-baggers, three-baggers and home runs should be credited to scholars who bring two, three or four new scholars on any one Sunday. In a girls' class the scoring might be done as in a basket ball game. Added zest to the contest might be given by dividing the class into two teams, each with its captain.

### ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

ANSWERS, Lesson II.—(1) Ps. 121:4.  
(2) Isa. 61:1.

#### For Discussion

1. Which is the greater barrier to the church's success—opposition without or indifference within?
2. What should decide the amount of our gifts to God?

#### Prove from Scripture

That our worship should be joyful.

### FOR TEACHERS OF THE LITTLE ONES

*A Look Forward*—We see God teaching his people that they should love his house.

*Lesson Thought*—Teach the children that they should love and reverence and work for God's church.

*Approach to the Lesson*—Some children lived with their father and mother in a little cabin at the edge of a "clearing" in a bush away in our big Northern Ontario. One day they began to smell smoke and soon they heard the crackling of flames, and next the flames were spreading all around their

home. They ran for their lives, father and mother carrying the littlest ones to the nearest village, but soon the village, too, was in flames. The people had to get into small boats and many had to wade out into the lake to keep from being burned to death. Describe the black ruins and dreary scenes in those fire swept districts. Picture the people returning to what had been their homes. How sad they felt! But they began soon and built houses for themselves, and let me tell you something very nice.