

Ask a boy seven years of age to rise, and tell that Joash was made king when seven years old. How could such a little boy be king? Explain that a wise, good man, who was a priest of the Lord, was the little king's teacher, and told him what to do. Joash was an obedient boy, and grew to be an obedient man. May be you think kings do not have to obey. Yes, they have to obey God, the great King, or they will have a very hard time.

[The interest will be increased in King Joash if the exciting story of his early years be told. It should be made brief and vivid.]

Working for the Lord. Now Joash had grown to be a man. [Pin up the picture of the Lord's house.] It made him feel sorry to see the Lord's house looking old and shabby. Wicked people who worshiped idols had taken away the vessels of gold and silver and put them in the temple of Baal. The people did not care much for the worship of God, and so they neglected his holy house. Joash thought he would make the house beautiful again, and then the people would love to come to it. So he sent word to the people to bring money to repair it.

Show the money-chest. The king ordered that a chest should be placed by the door of the temple. Do you think the chest would be a small one like this? O, no! the chest would have to be larger than this, for there must be a great deal of money raised.

To make the Lord's house beautiful was the work King Joash was trying to do now. Do you think this was a good work?



Giving to the Lord. Let some children come to the table and drop the coins into the chest. Let them represent Jews. The children will enter into the spirit of this. You may give them names and speak of their occupations. Here comes a rich man. He will put in a large coin. God has given him much, and he must give much. Here is one who has but little. He puts in a small coin, and God is just as well pleased as with the larger gift. And here comes a little child. Did the king want the children to give, too? Yes, and the children wanted to help! They always do. God looked down upon the little gifts the children brought and was pleased, because he saw love in their hearts. This is what God looks for. He does not care about the size of the coin we bring, but about the love in our hearts. Let children sing, or repeat:

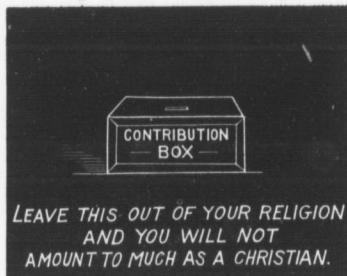
"Small are the gifts that we can bring,
But thou hast taught us, Lord,
If given for the Saviour's sake
They lose not their reward."

Choosing Words. Teach GOLDEN TEXT. Read

verse 10, and tell how the money was given in abundance until there was more than the king needed.

What is the gift the Lord wants most from us? Yes, our hearts. Make a heart. Print inside it "Given to God," and then show how words, thoughts, acts, time, love, every thing will have to be the Lord's, because the heart is his. Speak of ways in which children can make their giving to the Lord a more personal matter. Instead of asking papa and mamma for money to give, show how they can earn, or save, and so feel that it is really their own loving, glad gift.

Blackboard.



The blackboard preaches a sermon on the gospel of giving. The contribution-box is not only a part of the church machinery, but it is that part requiring the attention of every professing Christian, and the one who neglects it is a poor Christian, no matter how much money he has. Take a lesson from the people who rejoiced, "and brought in and cast into the chest until they had made an end."

OPTIONAL HYMNS.

Jesus, where'er thy people,
Give praise to God.
O, let us be glad.
Seeds of promise.
Work song.
Some work to do.
Glorious things.
I love thy kingdom.
The Church's one foundation.
The call for reapers.
Gather them in.

The Lesson Catechism.

[For the entire school.]

1. Who determined to repair the house of the Lord? **The young King Joash.**
2. What good friend helped Joash? **Jehoiada, the high-priest.**