

it to him that he might not go hungry. Truly, as God had promised, the meal and the oil lasted, so that the widow and her son had food for many days, and God was her friend, even as she had been a friend to Elijah.

THINK OF THIS—God is willing and able to keep all who need His help on this earth. If we obey him day by day, we can be sure that He is watching over us to care for us at all times.

LESSON XXXVII.

A BOY OBEYING GOD, Daniel 1: 8-16.

Golden Text: Same as for Lesson XXXV.

CENTRAL TRUTH—The feelings of the heart decide the actions of the body. God gives us all right hearts if we ask His help about our daily needs.

POINT OF DEPARTURE—A child's knowledge of truth, as experienced in dealing with those who mean what they say.

SPIRITUAL RESULT DESIRED—A desire to obey the best promptings of the heart, in order to grow happily and naturally all the while. Gladness in looking to God for help.

LESSON STORY—Once four young boys were taken to the court of a king, to be kept a certain time in charge of the king's keeper. One of these boys was named Daniel. He soon found out that, while there, all the boys were expected to eat rich food and to drink much wine. Now Daniel thought it was wrong to do this; so he made up his mind that he would not do it. He went to the keeper and asked him to take all this heavy food away, and give him and his companions only simple food and drink. Now the keeper loved Daniel and he said, "I would not dare give you any other food; for the king has ordered this food to be given, and if I give you the simple food you will not appear strong and ruddy like the others." But Daniel said, "Only try us, and see." So the keeper tried them on simple food and drink, and when they came up before the king, lo! these boys were the fairest and freshest of all the great company and found favor in the sight of the king.

THINK OF THIS—Daniel obeyed the voice of God in his heart and so he pleased the king.

If we obey God's voice speaking to our hearts, those about us will love us and be glad to have us near.

LESSON XXXVIII.

GOD PUNISHES THOSE WHO DISOBEY, Joshua 7: 1-5, 19-25.

Golden Text: Same as for Lesson XXXV.

CENTRAL TRUTH—God's commands must be obeyed, and the disobedient must suffer.

POINT OF DEPARTURE—A child's experience of having himself disobeyed or of having seen others disobey.

SPIRITUAL RESULT DESIRED—A reverence for God's justice, that shall make obedience natural.

LESSON STORY—Once upon a time God's people, the Israelites, took a city called Jericho. God told them not to take any of the gold and silver or money that they might find there nor anything that the people had offered to idols; for God had no need for His people to use these things. After the taking of Jericho, the Israelites went into another battle against the men of Ai, and this time they were so sadly beaten and driven back, that Joshua, the leader said, "Surely the hand of the Lord is against us and He will not help us. Some one in our company has disobeyed the Lord." Then Joshua called all the people before him, that he might find the man who had disobeyed God, and the lot fell upon Achan. Then Achan confessed that he had taken a goodly Babylonish garment and two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold, and hidden them in his tent, and the silver under it. Joshua sent messengers and found all the forbidden things there just as Achan had said, and Achan, by God's command, was put to death.

THINK OF THIS—Many lives were lost in the battle of Ai because Achan disobeyed. When you disobey, think how many people are made to feel sorry. All those who love you at home, and God in heaven is grieved with you because you forget His command, "Honor thy father and thy mother."

[The material for the Beginners' Course will be discontinued after the present issue; see notice on page 197.—EDITORS.]