

the dead child lay, and pray so earnestly that God would make him alive again. Show that Elisha had not power to raise the dead, but he had faith in God, who has all power.

## THE REWARD OF FAITH.



God. Show a seed, a plant, a tree. The tree grew from the tiny seed. We need to get the little seeds of faith in our hearts, and water them by prayer and kind deeds, and then God will make them grow into strong, useful trees.

## Lesson Word-Pictures.

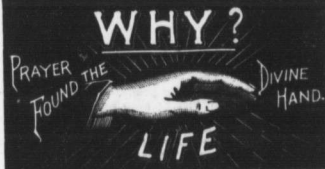
It is the time of harvest, and through the golden grain move the reapers. The father's heart rejoices in this sunny picture of prosperity. Suddenly, across this bright harvest-land, falls a shadow. There is a cry of pain from his boy at his side, "My head! my head!" and at once he is carried to the mother. With his return, what a shadow comes into the house! She holds him in her arms, she ministers to him, but the shadow deepens, and at noon it has the blackness of death. With a breaking heart, she carries her boy up the stairs that mount to the little chamber built for the man of God, lays the lad on the bed, and then mounts her ass and is gone. She must find the man of God. Let the servant hasten. They reach Carmel. Elijah's servant, Gehazi, runs to meet her. "Is it well," he is asking, "with the child?" "It is well." Well, and that death-shadow darkening the home? She hurries on. She reaches the man of God. She throws herself at his feet. She clings to them. She lifts her pitiful face to his that looks back in wonder. "Let her alone!" says the prophet to Gehazi, who would thrust her away. Then she makes her touching complaint. Hurry, Gehazi! Gird up thy loins. Take the prophet's staff. Speak to none, and heed none that would speak to thee. Gently lay the staff on the face of the child. By it, drive away the shadow of death on the home. No, no, she pleads. He must go, not Gehazi, but Elijah. Not a stick of wood but a living soul must touch into life the dead body. "As the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee," she cries. In her lives the spirit of the dead patriarch who would not let the angel go. But Gehazi has reached the stair-way to the little chamber. He opens the door. He enters curiously, wonderingly, and lays the staff on the dead child's face. There is no more response to it than when the sun steals in and tries to lay a golden crown on that young brow, or when the wind whispers at the window, softly, "Awake!" Dead, dead, and the grim shadow drives out the sunshine.

And now I hear another step on the stair-way. It is heavy and slow and toilsome, like the step of a man under a burden. It is coming nearer and nearer. I seem to hear weary sighs, as if forced from him by that heavy shadow oppressing him in pain. He opens the door and closes it. He steps to the couch that has given him such peaceful rest, and looks in tears upon the face of one who is in deeper sleep than ever visited the prophet. And he to be the one that shall awake the child out of sleep! Alone with death, and yet alone with God! O the outcries of the prophet's soul as he takes hold of God and will not let him go! The prophet bows himself on the child. With his mouth he touches the child's mouth, with his eyes the child's eyes, with his hands the child's hands. It is life at the gates of death, pressing in, eager to reach the soul imprisoned, fettered there, and bring it back. And the child—comes back! O that thrill in the prophet's soul, when there is warmth, when there is motion, when the eyes open and recognize him! And O happy mother, when the prophet tells Gehazi to summon her and she enters the chamber! She bows at the prophet's feet in all the tumult of her gratitude. She lifts her child and carries him away as if she had found wigs and not a burden. The cloud has rolled away and the light of a resurrection-day fills the house, and entering a mother's heart makes it a temple luminous with the spirit of praise.

## Blackboard.

BY J. B. PHIPPS, ESQ.

GEHAZI FAILED.  
ELISHA SUCCEEDED.



Make the word "WHY" quite prominent. Why did Gehazi fail, and why did Elisha succeed? Bring out the points of the lesson by questions. Leave off the sentence, "Prayer found the Divine Hand," if you wish, and write it at the close of the review. The Master is the only one who commanded life to enter the dead. Man can only pray for the divine power.

ANOTHER BLACKBOARD DESIGN. Draw a door and a large key. Write "Death" on the door, and "Prayer" on the key. It was the key of prayer that unlocked the door of death.

SUGGESTION. If you cannot draw a hand, place your own, flat against the board, and trace lines around it with a fine-pointed piece of chalk.

B. C. 894.]

2 Kings 5. 1-16.

[Commit to memory verses 10-14.]

## LESSON XII. NAAMAN THE SYRIAN.

[Sept. 20.]



little maid; and she waited on Na'a-man's wife.

1 Now Na'a-man, captain of the host of the king of Syr'i-a, was a great man with his master, and honorable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syr'i-a: he was also a mighty man in valor, but he was a leper.

2 And the Syr'i-ana had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Is-ra-el a

3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Sa-ma'ri-a! for he would recover him of his leprosy.

4 And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Is-ra-el.

5 And the king of Syr'i-a said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Is-ra-el. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.

6 And he brought the letter to the king of Is-ra-el, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, be-