

The idea that toys, and clothes, and that sort of thing, may be an idol, must be carefully taught. Some children do not make these things idols, and we should avoid suggesting evil that is not there.

In teaching that the love of our own way is an idol, we are usually pretty safe with all the children. This very thing will adapt the application of the lesson to the child.

## 2. DEFINITENESS.

The one central definite thought that we want to teach in this lesson is, that we should break down the idols that are in our hearts, and allow God to be the king of our lives. Asa did this, so should we. Avoid attempting to teach too much. Be definite.

## 2. CO-OPERATION.

We will gain and keep the co-operation of the children by beginning at the point of contact. What will be this point of contact? It is always hard to suggest a point of contact for others. The teacher knows his own class best. Perhaps the thought of enemies will be a

point of contact. The enemy of temper, or pride, or self-will, will usually be known to the child. Therefore, begin with enemies, then lead to the enemy of temper, and so on.

In fifteen minutes of teaching work, perhaps thirteen should be spent in talking about things known to the child. The teacher will observe that this is the secret of gaining and keeping co-operation.

## 4. SYSTEM.

Proceed from the known to the unknown. Talk about the child's idols, and talk about the child's enemies. Now talk about Asa's idols and Asa's enemies, and lead to the truth that when the idols are cast down, God drives out our enemies.

## 5. ILLUSTRATION.

Use the blackboard to "light up" your thoughts. Use Asa as an illustration of the definite central thought that you are aiming to teach. By easy words and apt illustration make the one thought clear and plain.

# LESSON II.—October 9th, 1898.

## JEHOSHAPHAT'S GOOD REIGN. 2 Chron. 17: 1-10.

I. GOLDEN TEXT: "In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths." Prov. 3: 6.

II. REVIEW THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER: "Pictures and Stories about Good Men of the Old Testament."

III. REVIEW THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY'S LESSON: Following God's Guidance.

## IV. REVIEW:

1. Begin with the child's idols and enemies.

2. Asa's idols and enemies.

3. The story of Asa breaking down the idols.

4. The story of a boy who gave up his own way and thus broke down that idol.

## V. SYNOPSIS OF LESSON:

Jehoshaphat was the son and the successor of Asa, King of Judah. He is called "King of Israel." Possibly because his kingdom was a part of the ancient kingdom of Israel, but probably by mistake; Israel being written for Judah.

He was a prince of distinguished piety, and his reign, which lasted twenty-five years, was powerful and prosperous. This remarkable commendation is given Jehoshaphat by the sacred historian, that the more his riches and honour increased, the more "his heart was lifted up in the ways of the Lord." Among other evidences of his piety and benevolence, we are told he caused the altars and places of idolatry to be destroyed, a knowledge of the law to be diffused throughout the kingdom, and the places of judicial and ecclesiastical authority to be filled with the wisest and best men of the land. His sin in forming a league with Ahab, contrary to the counsel of Micah against Ramoth-gilead was severely censured by Jehu, and had nearly cost him his life.

## VI. PRINCIPLES OF TEACHING AS APPLIED TO THIS LESSON:

### 1. REVIEW.

Do not fail to review last week's lesson. Observe in reviewing what points taught were