

"But Christ, the heavenly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away,
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they."

I am going to tell you a true story about a beautiful house that I saw once. A father built it for his dear son. He spent a great deal of money on it. He loved his son so much that he wanted him to have the nicest house he could possibly build. But the son never went to live in it! A great trouble came to him, and he went away to a strange land to live, and when I saw the house it had never been opened since the day the trouble came! All the beautiful furniture stood there, but no one was there to use it. The house was of no use, because the one to whom it was given did not take it and use it. When a new, clean, pure temple of God is given to him he comes and lives in it. It is a holy place, because he is there. When we go into it how careful and reverent we ought to be! We must ask God to help us think only good thoughts, and to make us attentive to learn something new about him and his ways.



[Make a heart.] But we have something to dedicate, or give to God. [Read from the Bible, "Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost" (1 Cor. 6. 19).] God has given each one of us a beautiful little temple, not of wood and stone, but of flesh and blood. And he wants us to give these temples back to him to dwell in and to use for his service! Have you offered your temple to God? Do you want him to come and live in it? If he does it must be a clean place. All bad temper, all selfishness, all laziness, and naughtiness of every kind must be put out if God is to be there! Do you want him to be there? Then let us all with folded hands say the words of the Whisper Song.

[Print "Joy" in the heart on the board.] When the Jews had given their house to God they kept a joyful feast for seven days. If we really give our little temples to God, he will fill our hearts with joy. Who will dedicate his temple to God to-day? Here is a little temple song for you to say together:

A little temple of the Lord—
My ears be quick to hear his word,
My eyes to see what I should do,
My hands and feet to serve him too,
My heart to be his very own,
Through grace of Jesus Christ, his Son,
[Use with appropriate motions.]

OPTIONAL HYMNS.

No. 1.

Lord, this day thy children meet.
In thy name, O Lord, assembling.
With joy we hail the sacred day.
Within God's temple now we meet.
Praise, for his excellent greatness.

No. 2.

Lord of the worlds above.
Heavenly Father, send thy blessing.
Yes, I will bless thee.
Christians, lift your voices.
Hallelujah! song of gladness.

The Lesson Catechism.

[For the entire school.]

1. How did the elders of the Jews succeed in their efforts to rebuild the temple? **God prospered them.**

2. When the house of God was finished what did the restored captives do? **They dedicated it with joy.**

3. What regulations did they follow in the dedicatory services? **Those found in the book of Moses.**

4. What did they shun in their personal behavior? **The filthiness of the heathen of the land.**

5. What is the GOLDEN TEXT? **"I was glad when they said," etc.**

CATECHISM QUESTION. Feb. 5

8. And what was the last and greatest proof?

His rising from the dead, as He Himself foretold.

Acts ii. 32. This Jesus did God raise up, whereof we all are witnesses.

[Matthew xvi. 21; 1 Corinthians xv. 14, 20.]

B. C. 445.]

LESSON VII. NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER.

[Feb. 12.

GOLDEN TEXT. Lord, be thou my helper. (Psalm 30. 10.)

Authorized Version.

Neh. 1. 1-11. [Commit to memory verses 8, 9.]

1 The words of Ne-he-mi'ah the son of Hach-a-li'ah. And it came to pass in the month Chis'lev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shu'shan the palace,

Revised Version.

1 The words of Ne-he-mi'ah the son of Hach-a-li'ah.

Now it came to pass in the month Chis'lev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shu'shan the palace, that Ha-na'ni, one of my brethren,