

If you roll a thing away, you have to let go. Then it is gone. Don't take it back. Ask God to help you, and then let him do it. Don't be as sorry and troubled as before you asked his help.

God's part. He brings to pass just what is best if we leave it with him. He has promised this and will do it. He is able, trust him always. We will make a scepter, or a rod, such as kings once used, and on it write "Love." It is God's love that makes him ready to help. It never fails. And we will make a cross. It is because Jesus died that the way to God is always open. We plead "for Jesus' sake."

Kindergarten Hints.

GOLDEN TEXT: "I the Lord will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee." Isa. 41. 13. "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." Rom. 14. 7.

HINTS ON METHOD.

We reached to-day's climax [Esther's success in pleading for her people] in last Sunday's lesson. To-day we add few historical points, but work out our climax, "brotherly love," more in detail.

LESSON DEVELOPED.

After reviewing we suggest that Esther deeply loved her own land and her own race. We call the love which we all feel for our own country and for our own countrymen "patriotism." It is not real patriotism, however, unless it is the kind of love which is willing to take risks and face danger when our help is needed. You all know of heroes in the war with the Moab, who were willing to do this thing. ~~Later a discussion of this heroism, tell that little boys and girls begin very young to love the flag of their country. They are trained to salute it, and when we witness their genuine love and enthusiasm in the salute and in the singing of their patriotic songs we are led to conclude that this love is their inheritance, their birthright.]~~

If you lived, as Esther did, in the midst of a strange people, a wide desert lying between you and your own land, would you feel this same love for your country and for your countrymen? The children are easily led to perceive that their flag would be even dearer to them while exiled among strangers, and that they would take even greater pains to say and do that which should honor their own land and people. Sing at this point,

"I love thy rocks and rills:
Thy woods and templed hills,"

and let this lead to the thought: We look upon our countrymen as brothers, and upon our dear country as ours and theirs, in trust for God and for each other.

While Esther was pleading for her people God was making ready her country across the desert for the coming of the Lord Christ. Esther, without knowing it, was hastening the time when all things should be made ready for his coming. In her Church, to this day, the people hold a festival celebrating the time when deliverance came to them through her courageous act. Among her children's children are those who welcomed the Lord Christ and learned of him to call men of every land and race "brothers."

Is there ever a call to do things, to give up things, to face danger, for the sake of those who are not of our own land or race? If this country is ours to hold in trust for God and for each other, have we anything to hold in trust for people in strange lands?

Right down through the earth under our feet [pointing] are people [describing their yellow skin and straight black hair] who carry in their pockets little ivory gods. They pray to these gods—when they think of it. They have troubles and dangers we know not of in our safe home. We speak of the way many of them live [showing pictures], using queer little boats as houses, and floating up and down streams, picking up a worse than scanty living. They and their children grow up in ignorance of God our Father. We show homes on land and water, which we could hardly call homes at all.

There are faithful souls in our own land who give up home, the companionship of friends, who sail away across wide seas, and live among these heathen, taking greater risk of life than did our soldiers when they enlisted for battle. These missionaries feel that the God of our country has given them so much that they reach out with both hands and with a full heart to these brothers beyond the seas.

The God of our country is the God of the heathen's country too, but they do not know it unless some one

To fight bravely for freedom is to be heroic.

To live daily and hourly as those who are convinced that "none of us liveth to himself," is to be Christlike.

LESSON IV. (October 22.)

EZRA'S JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM.

Ezra 8. 21-32.

GOLDEN TEXT: "The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him." Ezra 8. 22.

Primary Notes.

Introductory. Sometimes we are told what to do, and that is precept, or teaching. Sometimes we are shown what to do, and that is example. We