

## Blackboard Exercise.

The children of Israel were about to commence a long journey through a strange land. During this journey they were to encounter danger, hardship, and trials; therefore their guide must be the embodiment of strength, wisdom, patience, and love, in order to direct their footsteps so that they would not wander from the route that led to the promised land. There was no person on all the earth who could of himself guide this people on their journey, so God, who is all Strength, Wisdom, Mercy, and Love, became their guide; and he placed a great pillar of light to show them the way in darkness, so that, no matter how dark the way, this great light always shone forth clear and bright to every one who looked toward it.

Our life is a journey, and there is but one route for us to pursue if we would reach the promised land. We, too, need a guide who is strong, wise, merciful, and loving, and no man is strong enough, or wise enough, neither hath he enough of mercy or love, to guide himself or others to the journey's end; therefore God guides his people now, even as he did his people then, and he gives us his precious word for a pillar of light, that we may receive comfort and instruction from it. How many are looking toward it?

*Blackboard Song:*

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land,  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
Hold me with thy powerful hand.

## The Primary Class.

Either on map or blackboard show the difference between the direct route from Egypt to Canaan through Philistia, and the way by the Red Sea. Explain "exodus," "peradventure," "repent," "harnessed." Get before the minds of the children a picture of the vast numbers of Israelites all leaving Egypt. They took with them the embalmed body of Joseph. Ask the class who he was, and why they took his body with them. They were going through strange places, but they had a good leader. Who? He led them in a strange way. How? The Lord led them by day and by night. A cloud went

before them in the day time, and at night the cloud became a pillar of fire to give them light.

There is not much of detailed narrative in this lesson, but an interesting application may be made of it. We are traveling to another world as the Israelites went from Egypt to Canaan. We know not the way; we need a guide. God is that Guide. He says, "I will instruct thee," etc. [Here let the Golden Text be repeated.] He will guide us safely if we only follow him fully. His way is always the best way. We are safe when we do what he asks, and in danger when we do what he does not like. The way to get to heaven is to follow him. The best time to begin is *now*, while young. The Lord says, "Wilt thou not from this time say unto me, My father, thou art the guide of my youth?" Let the class repeat the latter part of this: "My father," etc.

## Miscellaneous.

## 1. THEMES FOR BIBLE READINGS.

1. GOD A GUIDE. Psalms xxv. 4, 5; xxxiii. 8; Isaiah xlviii. 17, 18; Psalm xxxvii. 23; John xvi. 18; Revelation xxi. 3.
2. A STRONG GUIDE. Psalms lxxviii. 72; Jeremiah xxxii. 17; Ephesians iii. 20; Psalm lxxxix. 6.
3. A MERCIFUL GUIDE. Isaiah xlix. 10; Leviticus 18; Deuteronomy iv. 31; Lamentations iii. 22, 23.
4. A GUIDE WHO KNOWS THE WAY. Psalms xciv. 9; xi. 4; cxxxix. 11, 12; Daniel ii. 22.
5. A GUIDE WHO PROVIDES BOUNTIFULLY. Psalms xxiii. 5; Isaiah xlii. 16; Leviticus 11; Philippians iv. 19.
6. A GUIDE TO A GOOD LAND. Psalms xxiii. 3, 4, 6; Leviticus 14; Lamentations 25, 26; Hebrews iv. 9; John xiv. 2, 3.
7. HOW GOD GUIDES. Psalms lxxiii. 24; cix. 105; Ezekiel xxxvi. 27; John xvi. 13.

## 2. LESSONS FOR MARCH.

- MARCH 1. The Red Sea. Exodus xiv. 19-31.  
 MARCH 8. Bitter Waters Sweetened. Exodus xv. 22-27.  
 MARCH 15. Bread from Heaven. Exodus xvi. 1-5, 31-35.  
 MARCH 22. Defeat of Amalek. Exodus xvii. 8-16.  
 MARCH 29. Review of the First Quarter.