



LESSON 11

Beginning with this lesson and continuing through the next four lessons the children will be memorizing a new prayer. Therefore, after starting the class with prayers, you will need to explain to them the meaning of the words and sentences in the following prayer and help them memorize the first couple of sentences.

“O my Lord! O my Lord! I am a child of tender years. Nourish me from the breast of Thy mercy, train me in the bosom of Thy love, educate me in the school of Thy guidance and develop me under the shadow of Thy bounty. Deliver me from darkness, make me a brilliant light; free me from unhappiness, make me a flower of the rose garden; suffer me to become a servant of Thy threshold and confer upon me the disposition and nature of the righteous; make me a cause of bounty to the human world and crown my head with the diadem of eternal life. Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Seer, the Hearer.”¹⁹

The other activities for this lesson are the following:

A. Song (including the review of songs already learned):

Fountain of Generosity

C

Be a fountain

Be a spring

G

Be an ever-flowing thing

F

C

It is true that if you do

G

C

Happiness will come to you

F

C

Search your heart every day

G

Is there something you can give away

Happiness should be your goal

Give your heart

And give your soul

It is true that if you do

God will always be with you

B. Memorizing quotations:

God is very generous with His creation. He looks after all of us. He gives daily nourishment to everyone. He has given us many gifts, such as hearing, sight and intelligence. In the same way that God is generous with us, He wants us to be generous with each other. We should give of what we have to those who need our help. In order to remember to be generous, let us memorize this quotation of Bahá'u'lláh:

“To give and to be generous are attributes of Mine; well is it with him that adorneth himself with My virtues.”²⁸

Generous

1. Ram and Rajish had saved a little money. They decided to buy some books for their younger brothers and sisters. Ram and Rajish are generous.
2. Mrs. Murphy spent the whole morning baking cakes. Before taking them to town to sell, she gave two large cakes to the neighbors. Mrs. Murphy is generous.

Attribute

1. Joel took a beautiful rose to the teacher. Beauty is an attribute of the rose.
2. The stone is very hard. Hardness is an attribute of stones.
3. “One of your attributes is that you are willing to work hard,” the teacher said to Charlene.

Adorn

1. Tonight is the Nineteen Day Feast. The children picked flowers to place in the meeting room. The children adorned the meeting room with flowers.
2. Ta Jen has a beautiful smile. Most of the time a smile adorns his face.

C. Story:

One day, Bahá' u' lláh sent 'Abdu' l-Bahá to inspect the work of the shepherds who were taking care of His sheep. At that time, 'Abdu' l-Bahá was a small child. The persecutions against Bahá' u' lláh and His family had not yet started. Bahá' u' lláh, then, had a good deal of land in the mountains and owned large herds of sheep. When the inspection was finished and 'Abdu' l-Bahá was ready to leave, the man who had accompanied Him said, "It is your father's custom to leave a gift for each shepherd." 'Abdu' l-Bahá became silent for awhile, because He did not have anything to give them. The man, however, insisted that the shepherds were expecting something. Then 'Abdu' l-Bahá had an idea that made Him very happy! He would give the shepherds the sheep they were taking care of! Bahá' u' lláh was very much pleased when he heard about 'Abdu' l-Bahá's generous thoughts towards the shepherds. He humorously remarked that everyone had better take good care of 'Abdu' l-Bahá because someday he would give himself away. Of course, this is exactly what 'Abdu' l-Bahá did for the rest of His life. He gave everything He had, each and every moment of His life, to humanity, to unite us and bring us true happiness.

D. Game: "The Twins"

Two, three or four children stand back to back and squat down. Then they hook elbows and try to stand up.

E. Coloring: Drawing 11