



LESSON 13

The lesson begins with prayers recited by you and some of the children. The children then should continue memorizing the prayer presented in Lesson 11. The other class activities are the following:

- A. Songs (including some previous songs):

I Want to be Happy

Am
There is something you must know
E7
In this Faith we have to show
Dm
We are men of deeds, not of words
Am E7 Am
Our very life should show our Faith to friend and foe

Chorus:

Am
I want to be happy

I want to be strong

To be His Servant

My whole life long
Dm Am
So, I must obey the laws of God
E7 Am
Yeah, I must obey the laws of God

There is something you must know
In this world of pomp and show
People are tired of empty speech
They want to see you practice what you teach

Chorus

B. Memorizing quotations:

God is All-Powerful. Out of His infinite love, He created man. Therefore, we must love Him and obey His commandments. We must obey God's commandments not only when they are easy to obey, but also when tests and difficulties arise in our lives. We must be obedient to God, and patient in times of trials. To remember this, let us memorize the following words of Bahá'u'lláh:

“The sign of love is fortitude under My decree and patience under My trials.”²²

Sign

1. Nancy's little brother Niko was very sick last night and everyone was very worried. Today he is happy and his eyes are bright. This is a sign that Niko is getting well.
2. Koli gave her sister a bouquet of flowers. Koli loves her sister very much. The bouquet of flowers is a sign of her love.

Fortitude

1. Though the baby had been crying all day, Carol continued to rock her and care for her tenderly. Carol did not weaken in continuing to care for the baby. Carol showed fortitude.
2. The boys were always trying to get Ashok to fight, but Ashok knew this was wrong, so he avoided fights. Ashok showed fortitude.

Decree

1. Jerry says his prayers every day at morning and at night. Daily prayer is a commandment of God. By praying Jerry is following God's decree.
2. Teresa never tells lies. Teresa obeys the commandment of God to be truthful. Teresa is obeying God's decree.

C. Story:

There once was a man named Hájl Muhammad who was a very good hunter. His bullets always hit the mark. He could even hit a small bird in full flight while galloping on horseback. One day with his rifle on his shoulder, he came upon a group of Bahá'ís who were on an outing with Bahá' u' lláh and decided to join them.

When Bahá' u' lláh saw that Hájl Muhammad was going to use his rifle, He told him not to kill innocent birds. Hájl Muhammad did not pay any attention to what Bahá' u' lláh said because his mind was on hunting, which he loved very much. So, he continued shooting at every bird he saw. But he was quite surprised to find that none of his bullets were hitting any birds. He shot once, he shot twice, he shot many times – but did not kill even one bird. He shot at big birds and at little birds, without any success.

The group was returning from the outing when a large, beautiful, white bird caught Hájl Muhammad's eye. It was so big that it could not fly quickly and Hájl Muhammad thought that surely it would be easy to kill this one. His first shot missed. Then he fired four more times, but he missed every time. In a panic the frightened bird flew near them. Hájl Muhammad thought that now he could not possibly miss. He fired two more shots, but the bird escaped.

Hájl Muhammad was astonished, and he began to think about the whole incident. All of a sudden, he understood something very important. He realized that Bahá' u' lláh had given him a clear command, but in his preoccupation with what he wanted to do, he had ignored Bahá' u' lláh. That day, Hájl Muhammad made a firm decision to obey the commandments of God at all times.

D. Game: "The Blindman"

One child is blindfolded. Another child acts as his guide and leads him around, being careful that nothing happens to him.

Variations:

- a. Rows of blindfolded children form a train and someone guides them.
- b. The blind person is guided around obstacles (tree trunks, ditches, rocks, tires, etc).
- c. To increase the children's capacity for giving and receiving instructions, the blind person can be guided just by someone's voice. The guide (and perhaps the teacher) follows close by to catch him in case he stumbles.

E. Coloring: Drawing 13.