

Lesson No. ( 11 )

## The Moving of El Mokattam Mountain

### References

The Story of Samaan the shoe maker.

### Notes for Servants

- ★ Jesus had suffered for our sins to save us, and he still accepts us, the sinners, and helps us when we cry to him.
- ★ Humble prayers is the most effective way to God's heart, and it refreshes our hearts and our minds.
- ★ Fasting and prayer are the best way to solve all problems in our service, such as active children.

### Objectives

**General:** God's care for us.

**Specific:**

The children will be able to

- A. learn to have faith and confidence in Christ.
- B. call God first in any trouble they may face.
- C. tell how they can use this example in their lives.

### Bible Verse

**"The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace."**

( Exodus 14:14 )

### Teaching Aids

Make your own.

### Introduction

- (1) Review last week lesson.
- (2) Who remembers the verse?
- (3) Remind the children about the church occasions for the coming week.
- (4) Egypt was concord by the Arab about 1400 years ago, and they appointed a governor for the country whom they call Caliph.

### Story Time

In the year 965, the governor was El Moaaz, the Pope was abba Abraam the Syrian who was a friend of the governor. This Caliph had a Jewish minister who hated Christians very much and he wanted to destroy all of them.

One day he had a meeting with the governor, he took the chance and told him that the Christians have in their Gospel a verse which says "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed ye shall say unto this mountain, remove and it shall remove." so let us see ... if their Gospel is correct. We have this mountain called El Mokattam which is right outside Cairo which blow lots of dust on the city in windy seasons ... if their faith is true they will remove this mountain and we may enjoy nice fresh air in the city all the time. But if they can not remove it then their faith is not true and you should kill them and we should have control of their possessions for ourselves.

The Governor liked the idea, he called Abba Abraam and told him if your Gospel is correct then remove the mountain or else I shall kill you all by the sword. The Pope asked the Governor to give him a period of three days. The Pope went back to his palace and wrote a letter to all the churches saying "The church is in a great danger, fast and pray for three days." Christians received this news with fear, they all fasted and cried to God for help, the children and the elders, men and women. The Pope spend the three days in his church without food rising his hand in a prayer day and night saying: God help us, God save us. In the end of the three days he fell asleep, and he saw in a vision St. Mary and she told him "God answer your prayer and the prayer of all his people ... now do this, when you go out the gate which lead to the market you will find a man who is carrying a pitcher of water, and he will tell you what to do". The Pope woke up, he bow down saying: thank you Lord Jesus Christ who answer our prayers.

The Pope went out as St. Mary told him, and he found the man... his name was Simeon the shoe maker. The Pope called him to the church and told him the whole story. Simeon told the pope do not worry "**The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace**". The Pope went to El Moaaz Palace, in his way he met the Jewish minister, who insulted him saying: for sure you are coming to say that you can not remove the mountain. Abba Abraam made the sign of the cross on himself and told him the Lord shall fight for us and we shall hold our peace, our God can do any thing and he will remove the mountain.

The Pope took the Caliph and all his staff and all the rich people and the Jewish minister was sure that the Christians will lose this time. At the site Abba Abraam stood facing the mountain and Simeon was beside him and behind them the priests the deacons all the Copts, and he told them to bow down with him saying Lord have mercy (make matanias), so they did as he said ... when they stood up the mountain rose up and you could see the sun light from underneath, and when they bowed down again the mountain fell down to the ground which shakes the hole area hard ... and this happened every time they bowed down and stood up saying Lord have Mercy.

The governor and his company were greatly afraid, and begged the Pope to stop otherwise the whole city will be destroyed. When they stopped, the Caliph went to the Pope and said: I am a Christian. He left his position for his son and was baptized and became a monk

## **Discussion**

- 1 - Follow up the story by talking about it with the children.
- 2 - Continue the discussion while they do the activity.

## **Learning Activities**

Activity Sheet.