Grade 2 Lesson 5 Story

Today you can tell the children the following story, which will provide for them an illustration of joyful obedience:

Haji Muhammad lived during the time of Baha'u'llah, Who, as you know, revealed God's teachings for today. Haji Muhammad was honest in all his dealings as a businessman and was known for his trustworthiness. For a period of time, his work brought him to 'Akka. One day, he was sitting in his office when 'Abdu'l-Baha entered, bringing an urgent message from Baha'u'llah. Haji Muhammad was to leave immediately for the city of Jeddah in Arabia. He asked 'Abdu'l-Baha whether he could have the bounty of attaining the presence of Baha'u'llah before departing. 'Abdu'l-Baha explained that there was no time as the ship was due to leave at any moment. Haji Muhammad closed the office at once and headed straight for the port to board the ship. **His desire to obey was so exemplary that he had no other thought but to follow the command of Baha'u'llah.**

As soon as Haji Muhammad boarded, the ship set sail. Only then did he realize that, because of the great rush, he had not thought to ask 'Abdu'l-Baha the purpose of his trip to Arabia. Now it was too late! Still, he was not concerned. He was certain that, once he arrived in Jeddah, God would guide his steps.

The sea that day was unusually stormy, and the journey fraught with peril. Everyone was worried that the ship was going to sink - everyone, that is, except for Haji Muhammad. He knew that he would be protected and the ship would arrive safely in Jeddah, for he had been entrusted by Baha'u'llah with a mission to carry out in that city. And the ship did indeed arrive at its destination.

After leaving the ship, Haji Muhammad heard two people talking in Persian among the crowds. Being Persian himself, he approached them and discovered that they, too, were Baha'is and were on their way to Akka to visit Baha'u'llah. They had been unjustly imprisoned their faith for ten years and had just been released. This was their first journey to the Holy Land, and they were in need of assistance. It became clear to Haji Muhammad that the purpose of his mission in Jeddah was to help these two souls to find their way to 'Akka and attain the presence of Baha'u'llah, a responsibility which he carried out with great care and attention.