

LESSON 14

A. Reciting and memorizing prayers

Following the recitation of opening prayers in the usual manner, the children can spend time learning more of the prayer introduced in the last lesson.

B. Songs (including a review of previous songs)

That Is How Bahá'ís Should Be

C
I love the Master
G
The Master loves me
G7 C
He shows me how Bahá'ís should be
Cmaj7 F D#dim
Trusting in God faithfully
G7 C
That is how Bahá'ís should be

I love the Master
The Master loves me
He shows me how Bahá'ís should be
Praying for guidance constantly
That is how Bahá'ís should be

I love the Master
The Master loves me
He shows me how Bahá'ís should be
God's Will, not my will, my prayer will be
That is how Bahá'ís should be

C. Memorizing quotations

Today the children will memorize a quotation about the quality of detachment. You can introduce the passage to them in the following way.

God has created every good thing in this world for us to enjoy—good health, delicious foods, love and friendship, the beauty of nature, and the power of the mind, which enables us to make discoveries and create inventions to improve the way we live. We should make use of all the bounties that God has given us and be thankful to Him for the joy of living. But we should be careful not to become attached to this world. Our souls must be free at all times; like free and strong birds, they should soar in the heaven of

holiness. How sad if a bird remains on the ground, unable to take flight because it is attached to the things around it. Let us memorize the following quotation:

“Know that thy true adornment consisteth in the love of God and in thy detachment from all save Him. . .”²²

Consists

1. Joey has two sausages and some potatoes for his meal. His meal consists of sausages and potatoes.
2. An egg consists of three parts: the shell, the white, and the yolk.

D. Story

One day King Maḥmūd decided to go on a royal tour of his kingdom. Preparations began immediately and within a few days the magnificent procession was ready to leave. Ministers, ambassadors, and a great many people of prominence, all wearing their finest clothes, set out with the King, together with his guards and attendants. The King’s faithful servant Ayáz rode by his side, at the very front of the procession.

Each evening the splendid party made camp and the wonderful imperial tent was set up for the King. This tent was the most beautiful tent that anyone had ever seen. Woven from silk of the highest quality, it was decorated with hundreds of jewels and precious stones, which sparkled so brightly in the lamp-light that the light of the moon and stars paled in comparison. Each night the King and his companions feasted and sang. Each morning when the tent was taken down, the jewels were collected and put in a box in the King’s carriage. And so the royal procession went on its way, the King looking contentedly over his peaceful and prosperous kingdom, his companions happily riding and talking during the day, and feasting and singing at night.

One afternoon the King and his entourage were passing through some especially beautiful countryside. So beautiful was it that the King was overcome with a feeling of generosity. He took the jewels from the box and scattered them on the roadside for his companions. As he continued on his way, they all scrambled in great confusion, forgetful of their duties, trying to gather up the precious stones—all that is, except Ayáz. “Look at Ayáz,” they muttered to one another. “He is so proud and arrogant. He cannot even be bothered to pick up any of the jewels that the King has tossed on the roadside.”

“How is it, Ayáz”, the King asked him, “that you do not join the others to gather up my jewels? Are they not precious? Do you not value the things that were mine?”

“Oh, My King,” replied Ayáz. “I have always valued the very least thing that is yours. But to be near you and gaze on your face is more than sufficient for me. Why should I leave your side to scramble for that which you have thrown away?”

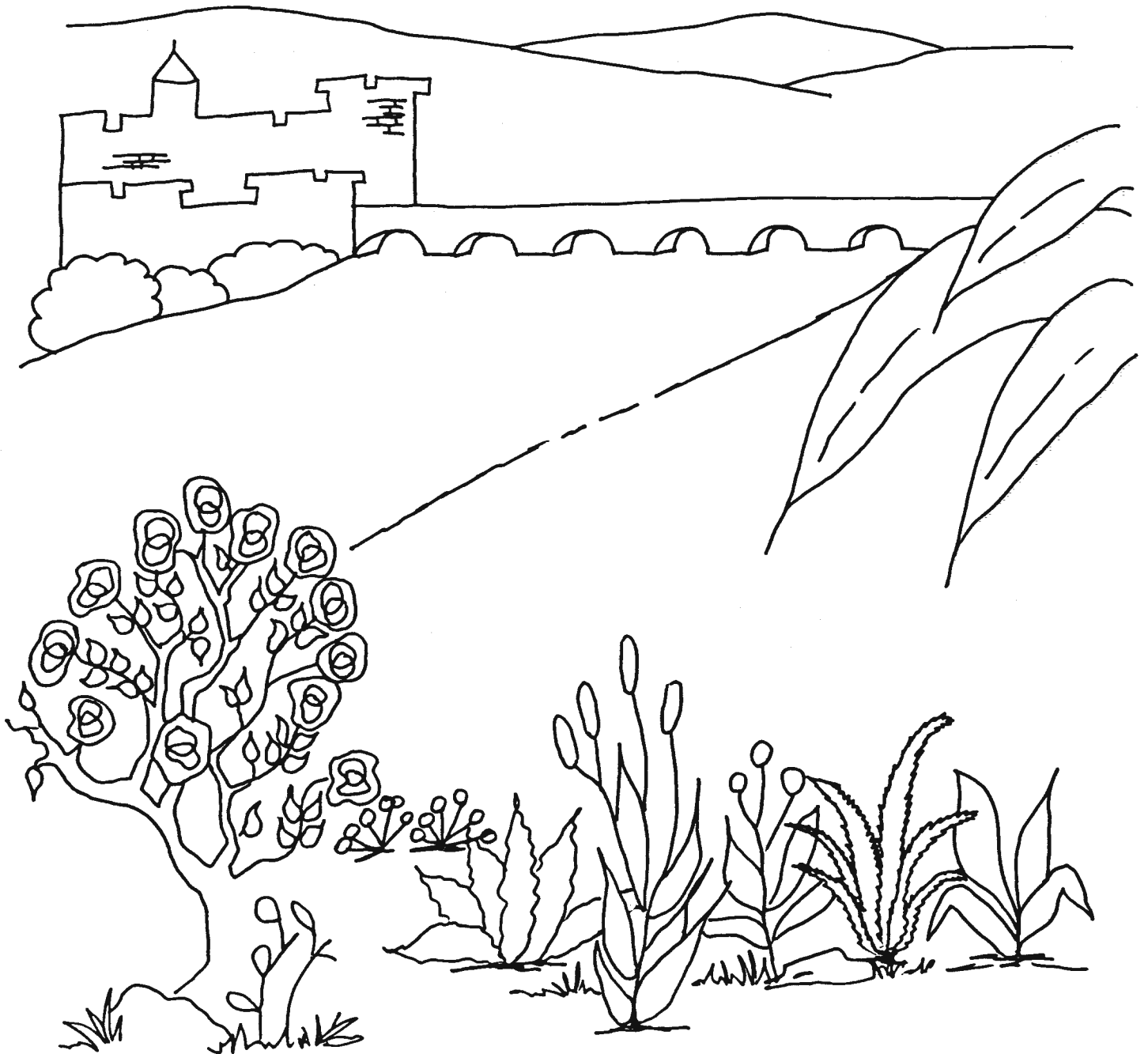
And the loyal and steadfast Ayáz rode on by the side of his grateful master, ever vigilant in serving his beloved King.

E. Game: “Wheel”

Ask the children to stand sideways in a circle, extending their left arms inward and joining hands at the center. They should now resemble a wheel, with their arms as its spokes. Next have the children turn around the center of the circle like a wheel. After they have done so, ask them to move around the space where the class is being held, while always staying in formation. To add to the challenge, they can try skipping and hopping.

F. Coloring: Drawing 14

G. Closing prayers



“Know that thy true adornment consisteth in the love of God and in thy detachment from all save Him. . .”