**Story from Grade 2 Lesson 12**

**The true story that I am going to share with you will show us what can be accomplished through cooperation.**

During Abdul-Baha’s travels in America, one of the places He visited was a special piece of land that had been purchased in order to build a Bahai House of Worship, a beautiful edifice where all people could come and commune with God. Before construction on the House of Worship began, a gathering was held to say prayers on that spot, after which Abdu’l-Baha would lay with His own hands the first stone of the building- the cornerstone.

One of the friends, a lady named Nettie Tobin, longed to give something to help build the House of Worship. She did not have any money to offer, but the day before the meeting, she had an idea. She want to a building under construction near her home. Cast off to the side was a pile of large stones, and she asked whether she might take one.

“Help yourself,” said the builder. “These are rejected.” You see, the builder needed a particular kind of stone, and the ones in the pile could not have been used. Nettie chose a stone but discovered it was too heavy for her to list. So, she went home and got an old baby carriage, loaded the stone into it, and wheeled it home. That was as far as she could manage on her own.

Now, in those days, many cities had streetcars to take people from one place to another, much like we have buses today. And, with the help of a friend, Nettie took the stone on three streetcars the next morning. Together, they lifted the baby carriage onto the first streetcar, then off again. They waited for the second streetcar, loaded the carriage onto it and then off again, and finally heaved it onto the third streetcar, which took them close to the spot where the House of Worship was to be built. There was still some distance to walk, and the two friends started pushing the baby carriage over the broken pavement. But suddenly it collapsed. They were at a loss for what to do! Even together the two of them could not carry the heavy stone the remaining distance. It was late, and the gathering had already started. After such a long journey, it seemed that Nettie and her friend would miss everything.

Just then, two boys with an express wagon came along. With their help, the stone was loaded into the wagon, and off they all went to the gathering- Nettie, her friend, the two boys, and the stone. Imagine Nettie’s joy when Abdu’l-Baha chose *that* stone to be the cornerstone and laid it in the ground. In time, a beautiful House of Worship was built on that piece of land, and the stone which Nettie and her friend and the two boys worked together to bring to that spot is still there today!