

**THE GOLDEN CALF**



**Passages to Study:** Exodus 1:18; 32:1-35.

**Read with the class:** Exodus 31:18; 32:1-24.

**Texts for memorization:**

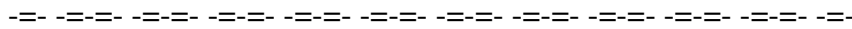
**Younger:** Rom. 3:12. "They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable."

**Older** James 2:10



**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To teach that impatience produces distrust, which can lead to disobedience.
2. To stress that "Evil communications (bad companions) corrupt good manners". 1Cor. 15:33.
3. To mention that some previous religious practices leave roots that can lead to error.
4. To show that God makes known His disapproval in a visible and audible way.
5. To consider some kinds of idolatry.



**SCENE No. 1. VISUAL AIDS:** Aaron receives contributions from the people which are then used to make the image. A sign nearby cites the second commandment, "Thou shalt not make any graven image."

**DEVELOPMENT:**

- Since being called God to go up the mountain, Moses has been some days absent on Mount Sinai.
- The people think he is gone for good.
- Lsn.** It would be well to involve the children here, showing them how dangerous it is to imagine happenings without having proof that they really did occur. One could be mistaken and take action contrary to the will of God
- Aaron assumes the position of leader, exercising his own will without God having directed him.
- Aaron requests the cooperation of the women, asking them to bring their jewels to be melted down.
- No doubt these were among the things they brought out of Egypt.
- For the wilderness journey God had moved the Egyptians to give of their riches to the departing children of Israel.
- They should have used these things according to the will of God, rather than in something contrary to His will.
- Cns.** Later on, when the opportunity was given to contribute for the construction of the tabernacle, the people who had given their gold for the image would suffer a double loss.
  1. They gave their riches for something without value before God.
  2. They were unable to participate in a project of great significance such as the construction of the tabernacle.
- Apl.** Ask the children if they use the gifts God has given them, their hands, their eyes and ears, their time, in ways displeasing to Him.
- Cmt.** It would be well to mention here that they thought they were making a useful "sacrifice" of their adornments to make a god, the idol. However, in the end, it would all be ground to powder and sprinkled upon the water, totally lost and never to be recovered.
  - Aaron had yet to learn what the holiness of God means. He had not been with Moses at the burning bush when his brother was taught to show reverence in God's presence.
- Apl.** This story shows the danger of acting out of fear and not trusting God. The people, thinking that Moses had disappeared, accepted Aaron's wrong idea.

