

before, his stammering problem showed up off and on--especially at times of nervousness. One night when Dad began to pray about Davidito's stammering problem, he said,

30. "YOU KNOW, ESPECIALLY GIFTED PEOPLE SOMETIMES HAVE AFFLICTIONS to keep them humble like Paul's thorn and the army sergeant we knew who stuttered very badly. He said that the Lord must have afflicted him with stuttering so that his men would feel sorry for him and listen extra hard to try to really get the point, with time to sink in!"

31. ALFRED AND I WERE BOTH VERY CONCERNED that Dad was especially so burdened and sad over Davidito's speech problem. Knowing that Davidito has his father's spirit, it's quite heavy to realize that he must go through very much the same battles and feelings inside. But here again I was only "burdened" but not desperately with the Lord!

32. ABOUT MID-SEPTEMBER, DADDY CALLED ME INTO HIS ROOM for a special talk about the stammering problem. Davidito had just spent some time in their room and he became so nervous and excited that he could barely speak at all and became totally frustrated with his own stammering to the point that he stopped talking altogether and burst into tears!

33. DADDY IMMEDIATELY PRAYED AND ASKED THE LORD WHAT HAD CAUSED THIS--and he instantly got the face of the poor little boy who lived in Baba's house in Portugal who had that serious speech impediment! The folks asked me exactly how many times Davidito had been around him, for how long etc., and we re-

lised how seriously affected he had been by this other child's affliction.

34. "HE'S A GREAT IMITATOR and as highly sensitive as a delicate recording instrument", Daddy said "He picks up everything, whether good or bad, and even the background noises which you don't even think he can hear!"

35. BUT THE REASON HE BEGAN TO IMITATE THE LITTLE BOY'S SPEECH PROBLEM is because I felt sorry for the motherless afflicted little child and showed him special love and attention, so Davidito must have figured he could get more of my attention by stammering too! It quickly developed into a habit which he himself could not even stop!

36. THE ENEMY, OF COURSE, REALLY RUBBED IT IN, which made things even worse for Davidito because he is so very shy and sensitive to begin with. Dad



2 yr. 7 mo.

said this was the most serious problem which had come up yet, and it happened to teach us all a lesson--but especially me.

37. "NOW YOU ARE THE ONE WHO MUST DEAL WITH IT, Honey, because you are the closest one to him and you are the one that brought on this problem." Dad suggested that I have very serious prayer with Davidito and lay hands on his mouth and pray, having him follow along. "Explain that the other boy had a speech problem and it's bad to stammer, but Davidito can speak clearly and slowly with Jesus' help."

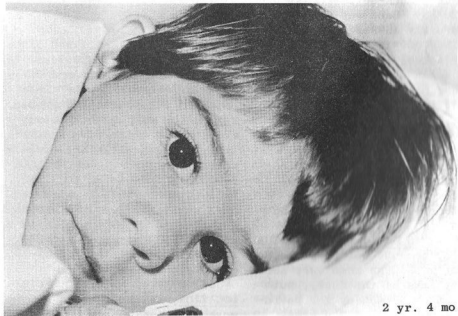
38. I JUST REALLY FELT TERRIBLE and had a hard time sleeping that night, but so did poor little David.--As I was lying awake praying for him, he'd wake too from his sleep and cry out my name in tears in such a fearful manner, like the Enemy had really been putting the pressure on him! I laid hands on him and prayed

over him, pleading the blood of Jesus and rebuking the Enemy! O Lord Jesus!

39. "THE VERY NEXT DAY I HAD THE PRAYER SESSION with Davidito that Daddy had counselled me about. Davidito listened very soberly and intently and looked at me with those deep, dark, piercing eyes. I explained what Daddy said, and then we prayed together holding hands. He followed me along in prayer and then added very slowly and carefully without stumbling, his own words,

40. "HELP ME NOT TO STAMMER and to speak clearly and slowly". We really prayed desperately together and praised the Lord afterwards, and I was so, so thankful that he was already saved and able to withstand this strong spiritual attack in his little Christian life.

41. LATER ON, THAT SAME DAY, WE NOTICED THAT HE BEGAN WHISPERING in attempts to stop his stam-



2 yr. 4 mo.