

18. Everyone has faithfully encouraged the kids that they were praying for them, sharing verses and quotes and writing Davidito sweet notes.

19. On the 1st day of the month, our fast day, the family united for communion and prayer for the children's sickness, especially to be a testimony to the children that we were doing all we could in obeying the Word and trusting the Lord to heal this sickness.

20. Maria reminded me, "It's very important to explain to Davidito why it sometimes takes time to be healed through prayer. The Lord must be using him as a sample again to teach our other Family children how to stand strong in the Lord! The trying of faith works patience and the Lord is testing his faith to help him learn patience. The Lord answers all of our prayers by saying either 'Yes', 'No', or 'Wait', and He will heal, but it sometimes takes time for us to learn the lesson the Lord wants to teach us."

21. This counsel proved very, very helpful in strengthening Dito's faith, since he had also withstood before a similar trial with his stammering and had seemed even a little bitter that the Lord took so long to heal him. This time he is much stronger in the Word and in the Lord so that he can accept the lesson that the Lord is teaching him about faith and patience, and he knows the Lord is faithful in answering every prayer.

22. We also have learned that it is extremely important to always stay with a sick child so that if he

ever is attacked by the enemy with fear, or really needs your help when waking from sleep or beginning a coughing spasm, etc., you will be right there with him, just as the Lord and His angels are by his side in the spirit. Sometimes, even being outside the room, a few steps away, is too far when a child wakes in a fearful panic because of a coughing spasm.

23. We just honestly could not see that the Lord would put Davidito through the dreadful, hellish trials of this disease, and it does appear, thank the Lord, that he is passing through the symptoms and sickness quicker than Davida did! The first night Davidito woke with a coughing and choking spell, he almost panicked beyond control and could not get his breath, just due to his fear. After that night, we had to lay hands on him, rebuke the enemy, cuddle him close and assure him that he was bringing the worst of it upon himself by crying and fretting, and that if he would trust in the Lord and think on His Word, the cough would stop sooner and he could go back to sleep. Sweet Mommy came to the room and told him the verse that both she and Daddy had separately gotten for him when they first heard him coughing, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all" (Ps. 34:19) Praise the Lord!

24. Daddy said the next morning that we should assure him, "Many, many children have to go through this disease and they all get over it. No one is going to

choke to death and the best thing to do is to think on the Lord and His Word. 'Great peace have they which love Thy law, and nothing shall offend them.' (Ps. 119:165) 'Thank God that once you've had it, you'll never have it again!'"

25. Daddy also said, "Perhaps one reason why little children have to suffer through such childhood diseases like this, is to build up their resistance and to toughen them up to fight off even more serious sicknesses later on in life."

26. To avoid him waking so fearfully and panicky in his sleep, we've made a special effort before sleep-times to have good Bible and Mo study. We highlighted in yellow pen the best quotes from some of the children's editions, such as "But If Not" and "Beauty for Ashes". Other good faith-building verses to memorize in simplified version are: Mk. 10:52, Ac. 9:34, Ja. 5:16, Deut. 7:15, Ps. 103:3.

27. Several times now when he's waked in a panic but gained control at the height of a choking gasp, he's cried, "Jesus help me!" or "Pray!" and several times while turning red in the face and gagging, he's sputtered, "I've got faith!"

28. Once when he heard me quoting verses for him when he woke coughing, he shrieked as the spasm began, "Let's read a Bible story!" Another time he cried out, "I love you, Jesus!" and later, "I'm trying to stop!", as he tried his best to fight the good fight of faith! We've just wept and prayed watching him suffer through it all, as a few con-

secutive weeks of this was just almost more than we could bear. (1 Cor. 10:13)

29. Even though it does not prevent the germs from spreading, we have encouraged the children to try to cover their mouths in courtesy when coughing, and turn their heads away, so not to cough in other's faces.

30. Medical books don't tell you how bad whooping cough can be, although different children endure the degree of illness in different ways. It's so very hard to see little children have to suffer through such difficult trials and weakening maladies such as this. They try to remain so strong and in the victory between coughing spells, and with their strong faith and trust, they endure hardness like the good Little Soldiers they are for the Lord. Hallelujah! God bless them!

31. Throughout the entire sick period, we have given the children small, frequent and very healthy, high-protein meals as much as possible so that they are readily-digested and the kids are not too full when they have a coughing spasm. This has seemed to help keep them from throwing up, along with our prayers, thank the Lord! (It would be wise to feed a sick child 15-20 minutes after a vomiting and coughing spell has subsided.) We have also given them plenty of liquids and juices, as well as vitamins A and D in Halibut oil capsules, vitamin E from wheat germ oil, and continued giving them the vitamin C solution. Garlic oil in frequent large doses also helps fight infections.