

just let him have the stick, HA!

31. DADDY GAVE US THE TIP THAT WE SHOULD NOT DELAY SO LONG IN MEETING A CHILD'S REASONABLE REQUESTS so that he has to fuss or cry after what he wants. Telling a child "no" and then giving in when he cries or whines is what spoils the child. It teaches him that crying or whining will get him what he wants and he becomes very demanding. But as long as the child's request is reasonable, there's no reason why we should not meet his needs right on time.

32. THIS LESSON HAS MADE ME CHECK MY HEART MANY TIMES WHEN DAVIDITO CRIES OR REQUESTS SOMETHING OF ME, especially when I'm not sure whether I agree with his motives. But a child usually only begins to cry or fuss about what he wants when the adult doesn't respond to his request the first time. If what he wants won't harm him or others, why not let him have it, and at least try and see if he can handle or enjoy the thing for himself? There are many examples of this point in this story, such as Davidito's interests in adult tools and belongings, etc. Perhaps we should not make the child's surroundings so full of "no-no's" but allow him to "Burn Free" as much as is reasonably and prayerfully safe and fruitful. The Lord withholds no good thing from us, His children; Lord help us to be more like the loving, merciful Father He is!

33. LEARNING AND PLAY: HE LIKES TO POUR A SMALL PLASTIC PITCHER HALF FULL OF BEANS INTO A BOWL, then pour the beans back into the pitcher again. One of his favourite toys is a little wooden wagon that he always turns over to fix like a real mechanic.

34. HE NOW POINTS TO THE WORD IN HIS MAGAZINE PICTURE BOOK, and not only the accompanying picture. This shows that he is recognising the words, whether he can say them or prove it to us or not, and this is a good tip in preparation for learning to read. One spring day we climbed on a little stepladder and quietly observed a family of birds building a nest.



Wooden table & chairs---see p.8

35. HE LOVES TO PLAY IN POUCHES AND PURSES. He takes everything out, examines it, and puts it all back in. In doing this he acquired a new interest in playing with coin money. But Daddy warned us that it's very important that he never put it in his mouth and always wash his hands every time after playing with money.

36. ALFRED TIES A ROPE ON THE LAUNDRY BASKET AND PULLS DAVIDITO ALL AROUND THE GARDEN and through tunnels made with chairs and bench cushions. What an interesting sex-education class he had with Lynn, watching the turtles make love in the garden!

37. HE REALLY ZEROES IN ON THE DETAILS. He sees moving cars that

are so far away they're just like little specks in the distance. One morning he watched a little spider crawling on the big picture window in the living room, and he spotted it through the glass curtains. He spied a teeny ant on his gadget board and watched it for 5 minutes or so.

38. LATER ON HE WAS PUTTING SEVEN SMALL TOYS IN A BUCKET, then taking them out. One accidentally fell, unnoticed by him, under the little shelf he was working on. He put the remaining six toys in the bucket and then looked at the empty shelf and began twisting both hands over and over: "All gone!" He looked everywhere for the missing toy and banged his hand on his head like it really "blew his mind!" and wouldn't continue with his game until he had found it. He discovered by himself how to blow steam from his mouth onto the glass window and then draw little designs with his fingers.

39. DADDY AND DAVIDITO WERE LOOKING OVER THE TALL GARDEN WALL down to the road below when they saw a neighbour man walking with his little girl in his arms and she offered them a flower. Dad suggested Alfred take Davidito down to the road to accept it, then Daddy gave them a little poem book about love, for a witness, and a little money gift.

40. DADDY SAYS HE LIKES TO GIVE THINGS AWAY that we have an abundance of. We used to pick lemons off our trees and Davidito would wash them and give them away to the village families. We also gave them little Bible Books about Jesus in Spanish. MO and Maria were always concerned that we had nice little Bible Books

and gifts on hand for our dear village friends and visitors.

41. DAVIDITO LIKES TO PUSH THE LAWNMOWER OUT OF ITS PLACE to encourage someone to let him ride on it while they push him around the driveway.--Daddy is his favourite nominee. During Mommy and Daddy's breakfast time on the sun porch, Daddy taught Davidito how to unscrew the lid to the peanut butter jar with two hands and then scoop out spoonfuls to eat.

42. ONE NIGHT WHEN DADDY CAME IN FOR DINNER, DAVIDITO WAS SO GLAD TO SEE HIM THAT HE WANTED TO PLAY AND PLAY and not let Daddy eat! So of course Daddy played with him for a long time, swinging him in the air and throwing him up high and catching him. (This trick, by the way, is only for Daddy. No one else is allowed to toss him around because it could be dangerous!) Davidito squealed with



delight and loved being with Daddy so much that when Dad finally sat down to his cold food, Davidito got real mad at him and cried hard.

43. I TRIED TO DIVERT HIM BY PICKING HIM UP, but he still kept reaching for Daddy. But when Daddy offered to take him while seated at the table, Davidito would turn away! He really holds a grudge!
44. THAT SAME NIGHT HE KEPT WHINING AND INSISTING ON HANDLING