

12. Finding Correct Pronunciations

A dictionary gives us much helpful information about words. When we want to know how to spell a word, we can check a dictionary. When we want to know the meaning of a word, we can check a dictionary. We can also check a dictionary when we want to know how to pronounce a word correctly.

Find the first word listed under the letter **a** in the dictionary at the back of this book. The word is **accurate**. First we find the correct way to spell the word. Then we find the correct **pronunciation** (prə·nun'sē·ā'shən) of the word. The pronunciation of the word is written in **parentheses** (): (ak'yər·it).

Now look at the page opposite the beginning of the dictionary. There you will find the **pronunciation key**. The **pronunciation key** tells you which letters and symbols are used to stand for different sounds. Use this pronunciation key and what you have learned about phonics in your reading classes to help you sound out the correct pronunciation of the word **accurate**.

Probably, when you are reading, you sometimes find words which you do not know how to pronounce correctly. Learn to use a dictionary to find the correct way to pronounce any words you do not know.

➤ Class Practice ➤

A. The words listed below are found in the Bible or

Answers:

Class Practice

A. Dictionary work.

Lesson 12

Purpose: To introduce the use of a dictionary for finding correct word pronunciation.

Stimulate Interest: Explain that a dictionary can tell us many things about a word. One thing that a dictionary tells us is how to pronounce a word. We call this the *pronunciation* of the word. Write *pronunciation* on the board, and ask the pupils to read the word correctly.

Class: Read the lesson, working through the directions as they are given. If the pupils have used the Rod and Staff readers, they are already acquainted with the phonetic system used in their dictionary. Such pupils should have little difficulty with these lessons on pronunciation. Pupils who have not learned phonics will need extra work before being able to handle these lessons.