

IF I WAS YOU.

If I was a man, a great big man,  
I know some things I would do.  
I'd tell the people who keep drink shops  
That we'd be some laws quite new;  
That they should not sell that wretched  
stuff  
That so many drunkards makes,  
Causing a father to beat his child.  
While wife and home he forsakes.  
If I was a man, a great big man,  
Oh, yes, if I was you,  
I'd vote for temperance every time,  
If I was you.

If I was a mother, grown up tall,  
I'd tell my son not to drink;  
To put aside the very first glass—  
Even from cider to shrink.  
Then I would work for the other boys,  
Whose mothers don't seem to care  
That drink, like a terrible giant,  
Wants boys who are young and fair.  
If I was a mother, grown up tall,  
Oh, yes, ma'am, if I was you,  
I'd sign the pledge just for my boy,  
If I was you.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS AS RECORDED  
IN THE GOSPELS.

LESSON X.—MARCH 11.

THE TONGUE AND THE TEMPER.

Matt. 5. 33-48. Memory verses 44, 45.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Keep the door of my lips.—Psa. 141. 3.

THE LESSON STORY.

"Keep the door of my lips" is a golden text, indeed, and if we pray it often we will be kept from saying many an unkind and wrong thing. Sometimes we hear people say, "Think before you speak." It is a very good thing to do. If when we are angry we would stop to think how foolish it is to answer back with ugly words. It never does any good and, indeed, always does harm. So also with swearing. That is very wicked and is sure to have a very harmful effect. It is a great sin to use swear-words, for the habit grows, and God has said it is very wrong to take his name in vain. It is also wrong to feel bitter and ugly toward our neighbor, even though he has not treated us well. It is so much better to forgive than to hold a grudge. Jesus has told us to love our enemies, to bless them that curse us, to do good to them that hate us, and to pray for them who "despitefully use and persecute us." That is what he did, and that is what every Christian should try to do. It is oftentimes hard, but with Christ's help we can do it, and if we let him keep the door of our lips we

will be helped to leave unsaid many unkind words and cruel actions.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Who speaks in the lesson? Jesus Christ.
2. What does he say? That we must not swear.
3. What does "an eye for an eye" mean? To have revenge.
4. Are we to take revenge? No; we are to forgive.
5. Are we to help our enemies? Yes, and to do to them as we would that they should do to us.

LESSON XI.—MARCH 18.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness.—Matt. 4. 23.

REVIEW.

1. What is the first lesson about? The shepherds find Jesus.
2. What is the lesson for me? To rejoice and worship the Saviour.
3. What is the second lesson about? The wise men find Jesus.
4. What is the lesson for me? To seek Jesus earnestly.
5. What is the third lesson about? The Boy Jesus.
6. What is the lesson for me? To be about our Father's business.
7. What is the fourth lesson about? The baptism of Jesus.
8. What is the lesson for me? To set a good example ourselves.
9. What is the fifth lesson about? The temptation of Jesus.
10. What is the lesson for me? To pray when tempted.
11. What is the sixth lesson about? Jesus calling fishermen.
12. What is the lesson for me? Jesus calls each little child to do some work.
13. What is the seventh lesson about? A day of miracles in Capernaum.
14. What is the lesson for me? Jesus can cure our ugly tempers if we will let him.
15. What is the eighth lesson about? Jesus' power to forgive.
16. What is the lesson for me? If we have faith he will forgive our sins.
17. What is the ninth lesson about? Jesus tells who are blessed.
18. What is the lesson for me? Are we like the blessed ones Christ speaks of.
19. What is the tenth lesson about? The tongue and the temper.
20. What is the lesson for me? Let Jesus bridle our lips.

The natives of Australia tie the hands of the corpse and pull out the fingernails: this for fear that the dead will scratch their way out of the grave and become vampires.

JUST THE TIME TO BE PLEASANT.

"Mother's cross!" said Maggie, coming out into the kitchen with a pout on her lips.

Her aunt was busy ironing, but she looked up and answered Maggie:

"Then it is the very time for you to be pleasant and helpful. Mother was awake a great deal in the night with the poor baby."

Maggie made no reply. She put on her hat and walked off into the garden. But a new idea went with her.

"The very time to be helpful and pleasing is when other people are cross. Sure enough," thought she, "that would be the time when it would do the most good."

"I remember when I was sick last year I was so nervous that if any one spoke to me, I could hardly help being cross, and mother never got angry nor out of patience, but was just as gentle with me. I ought to pay it back now, and I will."

And she sprang up from the grass where she had thrown herself, and turned a face full of cheerful resolution toward the room where her mother sat soothing and tending a fretful teething baby.

Maggie brought out the pretty ivory balls, and began to jingle them for the little one.

He stopped fretting, and a smile dimpled the corners of his lips.

"Couldn't I take him out in his carriage, mother? It's such a nice morning," she asked.

"I should be glad if you would," said her mother.

The little hat and sack were brought, and the baby was soon ready for his ride.

"I'll keep him out as long as he is good," said Maggie, "and you must lie on the sofa and get a nap while I am gone. You are looking dreadfully tired."

The kind words and the kiss that accompanied them were almost too much for the mother.

The tears rose to her eyes, and her voice trembled, as she answered:

"Thank you, dearie, it will do me a world of good if you can keep him out an hour; and the air will do him good too. My head aches badly this morning."

What a happy heart beat in Maggie's bosom as she trundled the little carriage up and down on the walk!

She had done real good. She had given back a little of the help and forbearance that had so often been bestowed upon her. She had made her mother happier, and given her time to rest.

She resolved to remember and act upon her aunt's good words: "The very time to be helpful and pleasant is when everybody is tired and cross."