

**SEND THEM TO BED WITH A KISS**

O mothers, so weary, discouraged,  
Worn out with the cares of the day.  
You often grow cross and impatient,  
Complain of the noise and the play;  
For the day brings so many vexations,  
So many things going amiss;  
But mothers, whatever may vex you,  
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

The dear little feet wander often,  
Perhaps, from the pathway of right.  
The dear little hands find new mischief  
To try you from morn till night,  
But think of the desolate mothers  
Who'd give all the world for your bliss,  
And, as thanks for your infinite blessings,  
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

For some day their noise may not vex you;  
The silence will hurt you far more;  
You will long for the sweet children's  
voices,  
For a sweet, childish face at the door;  
And to press a child's face to your bosom.  
You'd give all the world for just this;  
For the comfort 'twill bring you in  
sorrow,  
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

**LESSON NOTES.****THIRD QUARTER.**

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM  
ISAIAH TO MALACHI.

**LESSON VI.—AUGUST 6.****JOSIAH'S GOOD REIGN.**

2 Chron. 34. 1-13. Memorize verses 1-3.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

Remember now thy Creator in the days  
of thy youth.—Eccles. 12. 1.

**THE LESSON STORY.**

After the death of Manasseh his son Amon reigned for two years, but all that he did was so unkingly, and he grew so much worse, that his servants killed him in his own house. He was only twenty-four when he died, but he left a little son eight years of age, named Josiah, who was made king. Poor little Josiah! He was four years younger than his grandfather was when he was made king, but if we could look into the inner rooms of the palace and know who it was that taught and guided and loved these boys from their babyhood up we should know why Manasseh went astray and Josiah held fast to the hand of God. His mother's name was Jedidah. When he was only a boy of sixteen he began to think a great deal about the God of David and of Hezekiah and to seek after him. When he was twenty he began to use his rights as a king to clear his kingdom of heathen altars and idols. He took men with him and sought out the groves and hills where they had set up idol worship, and there they hewed

down the carved idols and broke the images of metal and burned with fire whatever was a part of their worship. In this way he cleansed Jerusalem and Judah from idolatry.

But there was a great deal to do yet. He called three trusted friends who were wise and willing, and told them to begin repairing the temple, so that it might again be a house of beauty for the worship of the God of Israel. There was a great deal to do, so they gathered together all the money that had been given to the Levites who kept the doors, and this they gave into the hands of skillful workmen to buy hewn stone and wood to use in the first works upon the holy house.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.**

1. Who was Josiah? The son of Amon, and the grandson of Hezekiah.
2. How old was he when he became king? Eight years old.
3. What was the name of his mother? Jedidah.
4. When did he begin to pray to God? When he was sixteen.
5. What did he begin to do four years later? To destroy idol worship.
6. How? He took men who cut down all idols.
7. What did he want to do next? To open the temple for worship.
8. What was needed first? It had to be put in order.
9. To whom did he give this work? To three wise friends.
10. What did they do? They hired many skillful workmen.
11. How did they do the work? Faithfully.
12. For whom did they do it? For King Josiah and for the God of Israel.

**LESSON VII.—AUGUST 13.****JOSIAH AND THE BOOK OF THE LAW.**

2 Chron. 34. 14-28. Memorize verse 21.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

I will not forget thy word.—Psa. 119. 16.

**THE LESSON STORY.**

In our times a king has very little to do with the thoughts or the religion of his people, for the people really make the laws and reign in a civilized country. It seems that in the Jews' country, as in all countries of that far-off time, the people followed the king as a flock follows its shepherd. Some kings, like David and Hezekiah, were good shepherds, while others, like Manasseh and Amon, turned upon the flock like wolves, or else led them into a wilderness of ignorance and false worship. But here was Josiah, in whom, as a child, the Lord had lighted a lamp that was to lead his people back again to him.

When the temple was searched for the money chests—which were really big,

strong mite-boxes into which everyone entering the temple to pray dropped a piece of money—Hilkiah, the high priest, found the Book of the Law. You would think that a high priest would know all about the law of Moses, which was for the guidance of the Jewish Church, just as our Bible is our guide. Now it was carried to the young king by Shaphan, a scribe, and he read it to the king. The king was in great trouble then, for he saw that they were not keeping the law of the Lord, and he commanded his friends to inquire of the Lord for him. So they went to Huldah, the prophetess, and she told them that evil would fall upon the nation because they had forgotten God, but because the young king had wept and prayed before the Lord it should not be in his day.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.**

1. Who was Josiah? The boy king of Judah.
2. What did he want his people to do? Worship the true God.
3. What does this show? That he was trying to do right.
4. What had his father and grandfather done? Worshipped idols.
5. What did Josiah set the people to do? To repair the house of the Lord.
6. Why did it need this? It had been shut up and was full of rubbish.
7. What was found at this time? The Book of the Law.
8. Who found it? Hilkiah, the high priest.
9. Who gave this law to us? The Lord.
10. Where can we find it? In our Bibles.
11. What ought we to love and honor? The Holy Word.
12. Why? It teaches us how to live the life of heaven.

**DIDN'T WANT A PONY.**

"Papa," says the small boy, "Willie Winkers has got a pony."

"Has he?" says papa.

"Yes, and it's the best-utafulist pony I ever saw."

"You don't say?"

"Just as gentle as can be. I rode on it and didn't fall off once. A boy couldn't get hurt on that pony."

"I suppose not."

"It eats hardly anything, too, and doesn't cost much to keep."

"It doesn't?"

"Not anything hardly. Willie said his papa bought it real cheap."

"No doubt!"

"And he said there were plenty more where that came from."

"Humph! Do you want me to buy you a pony?"

"No. I was only thinking what a nice pony Willie Winkers has."

"Oh!"

"Yes. Willie has got a nice papa, too, hasn't he?"—Farm and Fireside.