

the fields to feed his pigs. His hunger was so great that he would have been glad to eat of the husks that were fed to the pigs. And yet no one in that strange land would give him proper food to eat.

"How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!" thought the wretched young man.

"I will arise and go to my father. I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee. I am no more worthy to be called thy son. Make me as one of thy hired servants.'" Then the young man turned back to his father's house.

While he was still a long way off, his father saw him. There was only love and forgiveness in the father's heart for the son who he thought was lost. He ran to meet his boy whom he loved so dearly. He fell on his neck and kissed him.

The son said: "Father, I have sinned. I am sorry."

The father called to his servants: "Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him! Put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. Bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it. Let us feast and be happy. My son who was lost is found!"

Questions on the Lesson

1. How many sons had the father in the Lesson? 2. What did the younger son ask? 3. What was the Jewish custom about dividing a father's possessions? 4. What did the father do? 5. Whither did the younger son go? 6. How did he act? 7. What happened in the land to which he had gone? 8. What work was he given to do? 9. How great was his hunger? 10. What did he say to himself? 11. What did he make up his mind to do? 12. How did his father receive him? 13. What did the son say? 14. How did the father answer him? 15. What is the Golden Text?

Lesson Hymn

Take me, O my Father! take me;
Take me, save me, through Thy Son;
That which Thou wouldst have me, make me;
Let Thy will in me be done. Amen.

Father! take me; all forgiving,
Fold me to Thy loving breast;

In Thy love forever living
I must be forever blest.

—Hymn 169, Book of Praise

The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—88. Which is the Ninth Commandment? The Ninth Commandment is, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." **89. What is it to bear false witness against our neighbour?** It is to say what is not true about others.

SHORTER CATECHISM—91. How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?

A. The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them.

The Question on Missions

5. What was the attitude of the Honanese towards the missionaries? It was at first cordial, but owing to the circulation of evil and untrue reports, the people became unfriendly, attacked and looted mission property, and finally, in 1900, compelled the missionaries to flee from the country. They were able to return in 1901.

AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

It was a ring like the one in the drawing which was given to the prodigal son when he came back to his father's house. Such a ring



was a sign of freedom, since it was never worn by slaves. Copy the drawing, and remember that Jesus sets us free from sin to serve Him with grateful, loving hearts. When we think of all this, surely we shall love Jesus with all our hearts and do, day by day, what He would have us do.

I Have Learned To-day

THAT GOD IS MY FATHER