

mandments, He would forgive them and gather them together once more in the land He had set apart for them.

So Nehemiah now prayed to God to listen to his prayer for his people. He acknowledged their sins and prayed for forgiveness, and he also prayed that God would make Artaxerxes willing to do what he should ask of him; for Nehemiah was planning to ask the king to send him back to Jerusalem, that he might build up the walls of the city and help the Jews who were there.

### Questions on the Lesson

1. How long was it since the first return of Jews to Jerusalem? 2. Who was Artaxerxes' cupbearer? 3. Who brought him news one day? 4. What was this news? 5. What did Nehemiah do when he received it? 6. To whom did he go with his trouble? 7. What did he confess to God? 8. What did he remember that God had said? 9. Had His people been punished for their sins? 10. What promise had God also made? 11. What did Nehemiah now pray for? 12. What did he ask God to cause Artaxerxes to do? 13. What request was Nehemiah going to make of the king? 14. What is the Golden Text?

### Lesson Story

"I don't see any use in having to go and 'fess up to mother", pouted Jean, looking in dismay at the disturbed flower bed, where the crocuses were just beginning to peep up through the earth. "She'll see the hole where your foot went when I pushed you, but she'll think it was Snap's mischief."

"It was our fault, and I am going to tell mother just what naughty girls we were to be playing so near her new crocus bed", said Mary stoutly. "I know if I tell her all about it, and say how sorry we are, she'll forgive us; but I won't try to hide it or lay the blame on poor Snap." And that is just what happened. Mother said she was very sorry about the accident to her crocuses, but she was willing to listen to her little daughter's story, and forgave her willingly.

### Lesson Hymn

What a Friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry

Everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit,

O what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry

Everything to God in prayer. Amen.

—Hymn 404, Book of Praise

### The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—59. What warning is given us in the Bible about the Holy Spirit? The Bible tells us not to grieve the Holy Spirit. 60. How may we grieve the Holy Spirit? All sinful thoughts, words, or actions grieve the Holy Spirit.

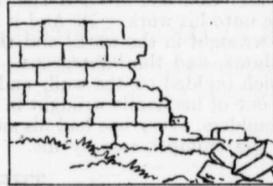
SHORTER CATECHISM—Review Questions 105-107.

### The Question on Missions

9. Who are the colporteurs? They are the agents of the Bible Society who carry the scriptures to the people of all nations. They sell Bibles at or below cost, and often, where people are not able to pay for them, they give them away. The colporteurs, men and women, number 2,000, of whom 60 are employed in Canada.

### SOMETHING TO DO AT HOME

See this city wall broken down so that enemies could easily get in. The walls of Jerusalem were like that, when Nehemiah asked



God to send him to build them up again. God will answer our prayers as He answered Nehemiah's. Copy the drawing.

### I Have Learned Today

THAT GOD ANSWERS PRAYER