

RUNNING AWAY.

Where are you going, my little man?
Running away just as fast as you can—
Babies are little, and babies will fall
If babies run fast when babies are small.

O the world is stormy and rough!
You'll find it out, dear, soon enough;
Tender wee feet will be hurt on the road,
Dear little heart will ache under its load.

Stay at home, darling, the world is so cold;
I'll frown on you, baby, because it is
old,

Warm is the home-nest, my brave little
man;

Let mother's arms keep you, dear heart,
while they can.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STORIES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS.

LESSON I. [April 5.]

PAUL'S FAREWELL TO EPHESUS.

Acts. 20. 28-38. Memorize verses 31-34.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus,
how he said, It is more blessed to give than
to receive.—Acts 20. 35.

THE LESSON STORY.

Paul, with several of his brethren, was on a ship making a journey toward Jerusalem. The ship stopped just at Troas, where Paul met some of his friends and spent a whole night in preaching and tender talks about Jesus. A young man fell from a window of the room and was brought back to life by Paul. The ship stopped again at Miletus, about thirty miles from Ephesus, and he sent for some of the ministers and brethren of Ephesus to come and see him. They came with great joy, for they loved their "father in the Gospel." He had gone through great trials and hardships on his missionary journeys, and he was getting old. He must have had a vision of what was about to come to him, for he spoke very lovingly and said he was going to Jerusalem, not knowing what he would have to pass through there, but he was ready to lay down his life for Jesus. He wanted them to remember how he had laboured among them for three years, "warning every one night and day with tears," and providing for his own needs and the needs of his helpers, showing them how the strong ought to work for the weak, and find the Lord's blessing in it. Then they all wept and kissed Paul, and went back to Ephesus very sad and lonely.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What was Paul? A missionary.

To whom did he preach? The Gentiles.

Who were they? The nations who were not Jews.

Where was he now going? To Jerusalem.

Who were with him? Eight friends.

Who was one of them? Luke, who wrote the Acts.

Where did the ship stop? At Troas and Miletus.

Whom did he see at these places? Many Christian friends.

Who were the friends at Miletus? Ephesian brethren.

What did he say to them? Loving words of good-bye.

Why? He said he should see them no more.

What did he beg them to be? Loving and giving.

LESSON II. [April 12.]

THE RESURRECTION.

1 Cor. 15, 20, 21, 50-58. Mem. vs. 55-58.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and
become the first fruits of them that slept.
—1 Cor. 15. 20.

THE LESSON STORY.

Paul was not among the disciples when the Lord Jesus rose from the tomb on that first Easter morning, for he was then far from being a believer in Jesus, and after his death and resurrection persecuted the disciples. Then the Lord spoke to him in the midst of a great light when he was on his way to Damascus. After that he became a humble Christian, and gladly learned from Peter and the other disciples what they knew about Jesus. Can you not imagine him listening to the wonderful story that Peter and John and Mary could tell about the resurrection morning? Paul afterward preached and wrote much about it. He saw that because his Lord had risen out of death we also should rise out of the death of sin into the life of righteousness, and when our body dies, like him rise into a new and heavenly life. He used to tell the persecuted Christians much about this, and it gave them strength to bear their trials. He told them that flesh and blood could not rise into the life of heaven, but that we should have spiritual bodies which could never die with which to enter heaven. When he thought about it death seemed to him as nothing, and he cried, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" and then he gives thanks to God, for Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What did Paul often talk about? The resurrection of our Lord.

Was he a disciple when Christ rose? No.

What was he at one time? A persecutor of Christians.

What did he hear one day? The Lord calling him.

Did he obey? Yes.

Who told him much about Jesus? The disciples.

What did he like to tell? "Christ is risen."

To whom did he tell it? To both Jew and Gentile.

To whom did he write it in our lesson? To the Corinthians.

What did he say? That flesh and blood cannot rise.

What will rise? Our immortal bodies.

Through whom shall we rise? Our Lord Jesus Christ.

CHING AND CHANG.

The wish to appear different from what we are sometimes brings people into trouble, and sometimes into a ridiculous position. The Chinese have a good story illustrative of this:

There were two short-sighted men in China, Ching and Chang, who were always quarrelling as to which of them could see farther. As they had heard there was to be a tablet erected at the gate of a neighbouring temple, they determined they would visit it together on a given day, and put the visual powers of each to the test. But, desiring to take advantage of the other, Ching went immediately to the temple alone, and, standing close to the tablet, saw an inscription with the words, "To the great man of the past and the future." Chang also went soon afterward, peering yet closer, and, in addition to the inscription, "To the great man of the past and the future," read, in smaller characters, "This tablet is raised by the family of Ling in honour of the great man."

On the day appointed for the contest, standing at a distance from which neither could read, Ching exclaimed: "The inscription reads, 'To the great man of the past and the future.'"

"True," said Chang; "but you have left out a part of the inscription, which I can read, but you cannot, and which is written in small letters: 'Raised by the family of Ling in honour of the great man.'"

"There is no such inscription," said Ching.

"There is," said Chang.

So they waxed wrath, and, after much abusing each other, they agreed to refer the matter to the high-priest of the temple. He heard their story, and then said, quietly: "Gentlemen, there is no tablet to read; it was taken inside the temple yesterday."

Ching and Chang were both served right. They were a precious pair of hypocrites. They could not see half so well as they pretended.