

Monday. Talk with the children of verses 43, 44, and read to them one reason why figs never grow on thorns or grapes on bramble bushes. This reason is found in Genesis, chapters 1 and 2. In a simple manner you can lead the mind of the child to understand that this is one of God's great laws, and after he made this plan the trees and flowers will bring fruits and buds after their kind forever.

Tuesday. Our hearts are like little treasure houses, and we may decide whether good and useful things are brought from our treasure houses, or other things. Each one of us may bring out in our speech either good or naughty words. We choose what kind of fruit will come from our lips. God gives us much freedom because we are his children and we are not trees.

Wednesday. We will talk of our Golden Text to-day. The people called Jesus "Lord, Lord," meaning it for a very dear name of a master, and when they did not do the things he said he was sad. Your father and mother feel somewhat like that when you say, "I love you very much," and then you forget to choose to do the things they have told you to do.

Thursday. Study verses 47 and 48 to-day. Here we read what it is to obey the words of Jesus. One who does this is like a strong house, and a little child who is good is like a little strong house.

Friday. Study verse 49. Impress the children with the thought of obedience bringing blessedness, or happiness and strength.

NATURE WORK. Have daily talk of opposites. Encourage the children to talk and express their ideas of the different qualities of thorns and figs, brambles and grapes, bitter and sweet, light and darkness, good and evil, a strong house and a weak house.

ART WORK. Show the picture of a castle or strongly built tower. David believed God's word is like a strong tower.

HAND WORK. Let the children prove the strength of a house built of stones and blocks by pouring water from a little waterpot upon it, and then they may build a house in the sand table and see how soon it will disappear as the shower from the waterpot falls upon it. The children may draw mountains the blackboard, and imitate them on their paper folds.

The TRANSITION CLASS may sew the words which are upon the lesson card.

SCIENCE AT HOME WITH MOTHER. Just as a tree is known by its own fruit (verse 44), so a little child is known to be good or naughty by its actions and its speech. A kind and loving heart has a fruit of gentle, tender words, and a child who speaks such words and does helpful little acts is a real comfort and sunshine in the house. This is a science or a law; it is always so.

LESSON VII. (February 16.)

THE GREAT HELPER. Luke 7. 2-16.

GOLDEN TEXT. "They glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us" (Luke 7. 16).

Primary Notes.



In a city of Mexico lived for many years a good doctor; every day the halls and steps of his house were filled with people, some on crutches, some with their eyes bandaged, some looking as if they could hardly walk from

weakness; mothers were there with sick babies and little children; some were comfortably dressed, but most of them looked ragged and dirty. What did they all want? [Print "Help."] I never could tell you all that kind doctor did for those people; he was very skillful and his help was given freely. He never asked pay of any who were very poor. Besides curing their bodies, he would talk to them about Jesus, he would comfort them in their troubles, and help them in many ways. O, how the poor people of that city loved him! They loved him because he was their helper. [Complete the word.] He not only was their helper sometimes, but was always ready to help; he was not only their helper in little troubles, but in big ones; so I think he could be called a great helper [print]. Do you suppose there was ever a sick person he could not cure or a trouble he could not help? Yes, sometimes the sick died in spite of his skill, and sometimes there was trouble he had no power to relieve.

Does this helper make you think of anyone? Can you tell me of any way in which Jesus was a greater helper than this doctor? There was no sorrow or sickness that Jesus could not help, and to-day we are to learn of still greater things that he did than we have learned before. As there was nothing he could not do, we may surely call him "The [print] Great Helper."

Where did we leave Jesus? [Review.] His sermon ended, Jesus went back to Capernaum, where he had done so many wonderful works. How glad the people would be to see him! Who do you think would welcome him? A rich man lived in Capernaum, who was a centurion; that means one who is captain over a hundred soldiers. This centurion had a servant whom he loved dearly, who was very sick and about to die. I suppose the doctors had done all they could, and so it seemed as if there was no help for him; but while he still lives some one tells the centurion that Jesus has come back—Jesus, who has cured so many sick, couldn't he cure this servant? Quickly he sends some of his friends to Jesus begging that he will