

**LITTLE HELPERS.**

We are little Christians,  
To Jesus we belong;  
We ourselves are very weak,  
But he is very strong.

We are little soldiers,  
For Jesus we will fight;  
Against our greatest enemy,  
We'll battle for the right.

We are little helpers,  
Therefore help must we,  
And in all our helping,  
Must glorify thee.

We are little Christians,  
Soldiers, helpers, too;  
You may come and help as well,  
There is much to do.

**LESSON NOTES.**

**THIRD QUARTER.**

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, FROM SOLOMON TO ELIJAH.

**LESSON VI.—AUGUST 7.**

GOD TAKING CARE OF ELIJAH.

1 Kings 17. 1-16. Memorize verses 13, 14.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He careth for you.—1 Peter 5. 7.

THE LESSON STORY.

We said in our last lesson that God was about to send a great prophet to Israel. When the kingdom of God within us fails because of our self-love and self-will, God sends some word to us by one of his saints, or through the Bible, or through some event that makes us humble enough to listen to his Holy Spirit. So when Israel was in trouble because of its self-willed kings, the Lord had compassion on the people and sent them a prophet to teach them. Ahab was leading the people back into heathenism, and so God sent Elijah, the Tishbite, out of Gilead to say to Ahab that there should be no rain and no dew for years except at the word of the Lord. But the Lord provided for his servant Elijah. He sent him where the brook Cherith flowed down from the hills to the east of the Jordan. There he lived and drank from the brook, and the Lord sent ravens to feed him. They brought him bread and flesh in the morning and the same food in the evening. After a while the brook dried up, for there was no rain to fill its springs. Then the Lord sent him to Zarephath, in Zidon, among idolaters. When he came to the city he saw the widow woman, of whom the Lord had told him, gathering sticks, and he asked her for a drink. As she went to bring it he asked her to bring him a bit of bread

also. She told him that she had but a handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse, and she was going to prepare it for her little boy and herself, that they might eat it and die; but Elijah told her to make him a cake of it first, and her meal should not waste nor her oil fail until the Lord sent rain upon the earth. And all this came true, for it was God's word.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Whom did God send to help Israel? Elijah.

To whom did he take a message? To Ahab.

What was it? That there should not be dew nor rain for years.

Where was Elijah then sent? To a brook.

How was he fed? God sent ravens with food.

Where was he sent when the brook failed? To Zarephath.

Whom did he meet? A widow gathering sticks.

What did he ask for? Water and bread.

What had she? A little meal and a little oil.

What did Elijah promise her? That it should not fail.

Did she trust him? Yes; and had enough for him and for her son and herself.

How long did it last? Till the famine was over.

**LESSON VII.—AUGUST 14.**

OBADIAH AND ELIJAH.

1 Kings 18. 1-16. Memorize verses 13-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I thy servant fear the Lord from my youth.—1 Kings' 18. 12.

THE LESSON STORY.

The great famine had lasted until the third year, for no grain could grow without water. Ahab was very angry, for he believed that Elijah had brought on the drought that caused the famine. He had sought him in every kingdom, but the Lord hid him. At last the Lord told him to go to Ahab, for rain was coming. Elijah went, and met the governor of the king's house on the way. He had been sent with half the king's horses and mules to find water for them, and Ahab had taken the other half himself another way. Obadiah, the governor, was a good man who served the Lord, and when Jezebel had sent men to kill all the Lord's prophets, he had hid two companies of them, fifty in each, in caves, and had sent them bread and water to keep them alive. When he saw Elijah he was afraid, and fell on his face, saying, "Art thou that my lord Elijah?" And Elijah said, "I am: go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here." Obadiah begged that he might not

be sent, for he feared the Spirit of the Lord might take Elijah away, and when Ahab tried to find him and could not he would turn upon Obadiah and kill him. But Elijah said, "As the Lord of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him to-day." So Obadiah went and told his master.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

How long did the great drought last? Three years.

Who suffers in a drought? Both man and beast.

Whom did the king blame? Elijah.

What did the Lord tell Elijah? To go to Ahab.

What did he tell him to say? That he would send rain.

Whom did Elijah meet? Obadiah, governor of the king's house.

Where was he going? To find water for the king's horses.

Why did he not want to do as Elijah said? He was afraid of the king.

What had Obadiah done? Saved a hundred prophets from the king.

How? By hiding them in caves and feeding them.

What did Elijah promise him? That he would surely see the king.

Whom did Obadiah trust? The God of Elijah.

**BERTHA'S FAULT.**

"Mamma, please give me something to do," said Bertha, one morning. "I want to be busy."

Mamma said, "Yes, Bertha, you are big enough now to feed and water the chickens all yourself, and you may do it, night and morning."

Bertha jumped up and down. "That will be such fun," she said.

"It is not just for fun you are to do it," said mamma, "and remember, dear, I cannot tell you each time. You must remember it all yourself."

"I will," promised Bertha, "and I will go now the first thing."

For a week the chickens were well fed, watered, and then, one sad time, Bertha forgot! It was a very hot day, indeed, and there were some new little bits of chicks that needed food and water very much. Poor little things, to be starved all day and all night in their little coops! In the morning some of the weakest ones were dead. Mamma found them. How sorry Bertha was!

"You are not faithful," said mamma. "I trusted you, but you were not fit to be trusted."

Bertha took her big bowl, and with a sober face went out to feed the chickens that were too fat and too old to be starved in one day. She gave them three times as much as they needed, but this did not make the little dead ones alive again.