

A LITTLE SERMON.

Never a day is lost, dear,

If at night you can truly say
You've done one kindly deed, dear,
Or smoothed some rugged way.

Never a day is dark, dear,

Where the sunshine of home may fall,
And where the sweet home voices
May answer when you call.

Never a day is sad, dear,

If it brings at set of sun
A kiss from mother's lips, dear,
And a thought of work well done.

—Our Young Folks.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STORIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, FROM
SOLOMON TO ELIJAH.

LESSON VIII.—AUGUST 21.

ELIJAH ON MOUNT CARMEL.

Kings 18. 30-46. Memorize verses 36-39.
GOLDEN TEXT.

If the Lord be God, follow him.—1
Kings 18, 21.

THE LESSON STORY.

We left Elijah in our last lesson on his way to see Ahab. Ahab went to meet Elijah, and said, "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?" "I have not troubled Israel," said brave Elijah, "but thou and by father's house, . . . thou hast followed Baalim."

Then he told Ahab to gather all Israel together at Mount Carmel, with eight hundred and fifty of the prophets of Baal and the groves which were kept by Jezebel. So Ahab brought them all together on the beautiful mount that looks out upon the great sea, and there Elijah said to the people, "How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." But no one answered Elijah. Then he called for two bullocks, that there might be one for the prophets of Baal, and one for himself to offer up. "The God that answers by fire, let him be God," said Elijah. This pleased the people, and all day long, through the hot noon, and down to the time of the evening sacrifice, the false prophets cried to Baal to send fire upon their altar, but there was no answer. Then Elijah called the people near to him and repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down, and made a trench around it, and laid the wood and the bullock upon it. Then he had four barrels of water brought three times and

poured over the sacrifice until the trench was filled. Then he cried to the Lord to answer by fire, and the fire came and consumed the sacrifice and the altar and the water in the trench. Then the false prophets were slain, and Elijah told Ahab that the rain was at hand. He saw a little cloud rise out of the sea, which soon spread over the sky, and Ahab rode back to his palace, and there was a great rain.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who went to meet Elijah? Ahab.
What did he say? "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?"

How did Elijah answer? Like a born prophet of the Lord.

What did he ask to have done? To have all Israel called to Mount Carmel.

And who with them? The prophets of Baal.

What did he ask Israel then? To choose between God and Baal.

Who would offer burnt sacrifices? Elijah and the prophets of Baal.

What would they pray for? Fire from heaven.

How long did the prophets of Baal pray? All day.

Whose sacrifice was burned by fire from heaven? Elijah's.

What became of the prophets of Baal? They were destroyed.

What then came? A great rain.

LESSON IX.—AUGUST 28.

ELIJAH DISCOURAGED.

1 Kings 19. 1-8. Memorize verses 3, 4.
GOLDEN TEXT.

In my distress I cried unto the Lord, and he heard me.—Psa. 120. 1.

THE LESSON STORY.

Can you think how furious, Jezebel must have been when she heard that all her prophets had been destroyed, and the people had seen that it was not Baal, but the God of Israel that could send fire from heaven. She rose up with a great threat to kill him, so that Elijah went for his life, and leaving his servant at Beersheba, on the southern border of Israel, he went a day's journey into the wilderness. There he sat down under a juniper tree, and his heart grew faint within him. Would you think that Elijah could fear a woman more than he feared the king or all the priests of Baal? Yet he said, "It is enough. Now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers." Perhaps he was discouraged because he was tired and hungry, for he fell asleep, and when he awoke it was because an angel touched him, saying, "Arise and eat," and he looked, and there was a cake just baked on the hot coals and a bottle of water close beside him. So he ate and drank, but he was not yet rested, and he fell asleep again. The angel

waked him the second time, telling him to eat and drink, for the journey was too great for him. Then he ate and drank again, and went in the strength of that for forty days and forty nights, till he came to Horeb, the Mount of God, where long before the Ten Commandments had been given to Israel by the hand of Moses, and there he lodged in a cave.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What sent Elijah into the wilderness? The anger of Jezebel.

Why was she angry? Because he had killed the prophets of Baal.

Where did he go? Southward from Judah.

Where did he sit down to rest? Under a juniper tree.

How did he feel? He was discouraged.

What helped him? He fell asleep.

Who awakened him? An angel.

What did he find? A baked cake and water.

What happened after he had slept again? The same thing.

What was he strengthened for? A long journey.

Where did he go? To Horeb, the Mount of God.

Where did he live there? In a cave.

A MUSICAL CANINE.

A writer in the *Boston Gazette* tells a wonderful story of a French musical critic, related by persons who profess to have been acquainted with him, and who have seen him in attendance on musical performances. He was a dog, and his name in public was *Parade*. Whether he had a different name at home was never known.

At the beginning of the French Revolution, he went every day to the military parade in front of the Tuilleries Palace. He marched with the musicians, halted with them, listened knowingly to their performances, and, after the parade, disappeared, to return promptly at parade-time the next day. Gradually the musicians became attached to this devoted listener. They named him *Parade*, and one or another of them always invited him to dinner. He accepted the invitation, and was a pleasant guest.

It was discovered that after dinner he always attended a concert, where he seated himself calmly in the corner of the orchestra, and listened critically to the music. If a new piece was played, he noticed it instantly, and paid the strictest attention. If the piece had fine, melodious passages, he showed his joy to the best of his doggyish ability; but if the piece was ordinary and uninteresting, he yawned, stared at the house, and unmistakably expressed his disapproval.

Diligence is the mother of good luck.