

SOMEBODY'S SON.

Somebody's son in a gutter sleeps,
 With bloated lips and with ghastly brow.
 What do we care if his mother weeps?
 For Jones is paying a license now!
 The low dives stopped when the high dives
 came.
 Cash made them respectable—every
 one;
 And surely nobody is now to blame,
 Because this boy is a drunkard's son.
 Somebody's wife in that hovel dwells,
 The canker of care is on her brow;
 Her home has the ills of a hundred hells—
 A drunkard husband stays with her
 now.
 But what does it matter to you and me;
 And what do we care for their grief
 and woe?
 The Nation gets pay for it all, you see,
 And Jones has a fine saloon, you know.
 Somebody's son at the morgue now lies,
 With a dagger wound in his lifeless
 heart;
 What do we care for his mother's sighs—
 Since Jones and his license have done
 their part?
 Somebody's son was a sinless child,
 But he went astray where the drink
 was sold;
 What do we care how he was beguiled?
 The Nation was paid for it all in gold.
 —Pioneer.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON XI. [Dec. 14.]

THE BOY SAMUEL.

1 Sam. 3. 6-14. Memorize verses 7-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth.
 —1 Sam. 3. 9.

THE LESSON STORY.

Eli was now high priest and judge, and little Samuel, whose mother, Hannah, had "lent him to the Lord," lived with him and "ministered unto him." Eli had two sons who should have done this, but they were bad men. Their names were Hophni and Phineas.

One night when both Eli and Samuel had lain down in their beds the Lord called Samuel. The little boy thought it was the voice of Eli, and he ran to him, saying, "Here am I," but Eli told him that he did not call, and bade him lie down again. Three times did the Lord call and Samuel answer before he knew that it was the Lord who was calling. The last time he answered as Eli had told him to do: "Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth." Then the Lord told him what he must do about the wicked sons of Eli, who ought to have been good men like

their father, and ministers in the temple. When Eli made Samuel tell him what the Lord had said to him, Eli said, "It is the Lord."

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where did the people worship now?
 In a temple.
 Who was the high priest? Eli.
 Who helped him in the temple? Little Samuel.
 Where did Samuel sleep? In the temple.
 Who spoke to him one night? The Lord.
 What did he think? That it was Eli speaking.
 What did Eli tell Samuel? To answer the Lord.
 What did he say? "Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth."
 What did the Lord give him? A message to Eli.
 To whom can the Lord speak? To the pure in heart.
 What may we all do? Listen for the Lord's voice.

LESSON XII. [Dec. 21.]

SAMUEL THE JUDGE.

1 Sam. 7. 2-13. Memorize verses 8-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve him only.—1 Sam. 7. 3.

THE LESSON STORY.

When the Lord called little Samuel to be a child minister he knew that he was to grow up to be a prophet and a judge in Israel. The Israelites were always in trouble on account of their sins, and they needed a strong hand to lead them and hold them to the worship of the true God.

It was the Philistines that next troubled them and robbed them of their flocks and their harvests, and came out to battle with them. Samuel told them that if they would truly return to the Lord he would deliver them from the Philistines, so they had a great meeting at Mizpeh, and they fasted and prayed and confessed their sins, pouring out water before the Lord as a sign. Samuel also prayed as he offered sacrifices, and just then the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel, but the Lord sent a great thunderstorm upon the Philistines and Israel pursued them while they fled. Then Samuel set up a stone in memory of that day, and called it "Ebenezer," which means "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." The Philistines came no more while Samuel lived. So God still helps and saves his people who trust in him.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What kind of a boy was Samuel? One who served God.
 What did he grow to be? A prophet and judge.
 What was his work? To help the people to be good.

What were they always doing? Turning to idols.

From what did they suffer? From war and robbery.

Who troubled them now? The Philistines.

Who were they? Heathen people.

What did Samuel do? He prayed for Israel.

Who came while he was praying? The Philistines.

What came just then? A great thunder-storm.

What followed? The enemy ran away.

What did Samuel say? That the Lord had helped them.

LESSON XII. [Dec. 21.]

CHRISTMAS LESSON.

Luke 2. 8-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.—Luke 2. 11.

THE LESSON STORY.

Out in the fields near the little town of Bethlehem some shepherds were watching their flocks one night. But suddenly an angel stood by the shepherds, and a great light shone round about them, and the angel spoke kindly to them, saying, "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David (Bethlehem) a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Then in a moment the air was full of angel faces and heavenly voices sang: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

The shepherds went quickly to Bethlehem, and there they found Mary and Joseph, and also the Holy Child lying in a manger. They told the people of Bethlehem what they had seen and heard, and they were astonished; but Mary kept these things in her heart to think and pray about.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where was the first Christmas? In Bethlehem of Judea.

When was it? Almost two thousand years ago.

Who were in the fields one night? Some shepherds.

What were they doing? Watching their flocks.

What did they see? An angel, in a great light.

What did he bring? Good news.

What was it? That Christ was born.

Who came then? A great many angels.

What did they sing? (Verse 14.)

Where did the shepherds go? To Bethlehem.

What did they find? The Holy Child.

Who were with him? Mary and Joseph.