

MY HYMN THIS WEEK.

MORE and more like Jesus,
I would ever be,
More and more like Jesus,
The Saviour who died for me.

MY VERSES THIS WEEK.

MONDAY—2 Peter 3 : 13.
TUESDAY—Eph. 4 : 15.
WEDNESDAY—Luke 2 : 40.
THURSDAY—2 Chr. 34 : 3.
FRIDAY—Prov. 3 : 12.
SATURDAY—2 Tim. 3 : 15.
SABBATH—Luke 2 : 52.

MY LESSON STORY THIS WEEK.



AS we learned in our Christmas lesson, Jesus was born in Bethlehem. The shepherds and wise men visited him there. The wicked Herod sought to kill him ; and to save his life, Joseph and his mother had to take the young child and go into Egypt. When Herod was dead, they all went back to Palestine, and lived in Nazareth. The Bible does not tell us any more about Jesus until we come to the beautiful story in our lesson to-day. From it we learn that Jesus grew strong and wise. Joseph and Mary were in the habit of going up to Jerusalem every year to the feast of the Pass-over, and when Jesus was twelve years of age, they took him with them, as it was the custom for boys at that age to go with their parents.

As his parents were returning home, they thought that Jesus was with some of the friends in the company, and until they had been a day's journey on the way home did not find that he was not with them.

Then they returned to Jerusalem and searched for him three days before they found him. At last they found him in the temple (as we see in our picture) sitting in the midst of the learned men, hearing them and asking them questions. When his mother spoke to him and asked him why he had stayed behind instead of coming along with them, he said "How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"

Jesus, even when a boy, knew that God was his Father, and was always doing what he thought his Father would like him to do.

Boys and girls, should like Jesus, grow strong in body and pure in heart, so that their young lives might be spent in the service of their Father in heaven.

MY QUESTIONS THIS WEEK.

1. What kind of a boy was Jesus?
2. When his parents found him, what did he say?
3. What did he mean by saying "I must be about my Father's business?"
4. How should boys and girls grow?

MY PRAYER THIS WEEK.

Oh God! take from my life everything that hinders me from growing like Jesus.