

and preparing of the canoe is very difficult for them, but they are overcoming all obstacles by their perseverance. They are bright active and industrious.

In their studies they have made even more progress. Seven of the whole number can read quite well, while the remainder have mastered the alphabet and begun to read.

Our appliances are still unsatisfactory. A few maps, with the mountains and some of the countries raised have lately been secured. But we trust that before another year we may have many needed helps.

They are ever wishing to learn something new. They were much delighted to have "Pilgrims Progress" to read.

One of them lives with his grandmother, and three months ago they went to visit his father in a distant town. We regretted the fact that he would be away from all Christian influence, but trust he may be the bearer of good news to his own family.

Teaching these children has been a pleasure, and a more inspiring and encouraging work it would be hard to find. Seven of them have given evidence of having received a new heart and have been baptized.

BABIES IN CHINA.

When a Chinese baby takes a nap, people think its soul is having a rest—going out for a long walk perhaps. If the nap is a very long one the mother is frightened. She is afraid that her baby's soul has wandered too far, and cannot find its way home. If it doesn't come back, of course the baby will never waken.

Sometimes men are sent out on the street to call the baby's name over and over again, as though it were a real child lost. They hope to lead the soul back home.

If a baby sleeps while it is being carried from one place to another, the danger of losing the soul along the way is very great. So, whoever carries the little one keeps saying its name out loud, so that the soul will not stray away. They think of the soul as a bird hopping along after them.

THE PLAN OF STUDY

FOR THE CHILDREN.

Conducted by Rev. R. Douglas Fraser.

Topic for Week beginning July 9.

The Work of our Woman's Missionary Societies.

Read Psalm 67.

In many of your homes mother or sister will be able to tell you about the Woman's Missionary Society, or Mission Band in your own congregation.

But there are many other Societies and Bands, all over Canada, and you may learn something about them in the following lines.

If you do not belong to a Mission Band, perhaps reading and thinking about them will lead you to join one, or if there is none in your own congregation, you might ask somebody to get one formed, so that you may belong to it. This would be good missionary work.

MISSION BANDS IN THE WEST.

BY MISS CAVEN, TORONTO.

It is twenty-three years since the Woman's Missionary Society, of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, was organized, and the same year Mission Bands were formed, so that your Bands are as old as the Women's Societies, and those who belonged to the earlier Bands are now men and women, and I trust they are better men and women because they belonged to these Bands and better workers in the Church because of the work they did there.

These Societies and Bands are not independent societies outside of the Church, but they are helpers in the Church and their immediate object is the evangelization of women and children in heathen lands.

Now, twenty-three years after the Mission Bands began in the West, their number has grown to 302, with a membership of over 7000 boys and girls in connection with them, and last year these Bands gave \$6000 to Missions.

But this large number is not all the young people who are being trained in mission work, for in many congregations there are other young people's societies, Christian Endeavor Societies, and Bands for Home Mission work, and in most of these the young people study about the Missions of the Church.

Honor thy father and thy mother, which is the first commandment with promise.