

THE CHILDREN'S RECORD.

Sabbath School Lessons.

Aug. 14. ANANIAS AND SAPHIRA.

Lesson, Acts 5 : 1-11. Golden Text, Gal. 6 : 7.
Memory vs. 9-11. Catechism Q. 89.

Time.—Quite a time, some three or four years, is supposed to have passed away after the Day of Pentecost, when the events of this lesson took place. Barnabas who afterwards became Paul's fellow-worker, together with others, sold their property, and gave to the poor. Ananias wanted to get credit for being a good man, and he and his wife planned to deceive the apostles. Their sin was not in keeping the money, but in pretending to give all.

Introductory.—What was the subject of the last lesson? How did the apostles show their confidence in God? For what did they pray? How was their prayer answered? How did the apostles preach? How did the disciples feel toward each other? How did they show their brotherly love? What example of their liberality is recorded? Title of this lesson? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *The Sin Committed.*, vs. 1, 2, 7, 8.—What did Ananias do? Why did he sell his property? What did he do with the price? What was there wrong in this act? What happened three hours later? vs. 7, 8. Did Sapphira know the truth about the sale? About what did they both willfully lie? In what did his lie differ from hers?

II. *The Sin Detected*, vs. 3, 4, 9.—Who detected their sin? What four questions did Peter ask Ananias? How can Satan fill one's heart? Luke 22 : 3. To whom was this lie told? What is their sin called in verse 9? How did Peter know so much about their sin?

III. *The Sin Punished*, vs. 5, 6, 10, 11.—What terrible punishment fell upon Ananias? Why was he punished so severely? What was done with his body? What sentence did Peter pronounce upon Sapphira? How was this sentence executed? Why was she so terribly treated? What does every sin deserve? What effect did this event produce on the Church? What upon all who heard of it?

PRACTICAL LESSONS LEARNED.

1. We should never speak or act a lie.
2. Our most secret sins are known to God.
3. Sin under pretence of serving God is very heinous.
4. Sincerity and purity of motive are the first requisites to acceptable service.
5. Sometimes the greatest severity is the greatest mercy.

Aug. 21. THE APOSTLES PERSECUTED.

Time, soon after last lesson.

Lesson, Acts 5 : 25-41.

Golden Text, Acts 3 : 29.

Memory vs. 29-22. Catechism Q. 90.

QUESTIONS.

Introductory.—What miracles were wrought by the apostles? What success attended their ministry? What roused the wrath of the rulers? What did they do with the apostles? Who opened the prison doors? What did the released apostles do? What report was brought to the rulers? Title of this lesson? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *Forbidden to Preach*, vs. 25-28.—What further report was brought to the rulers? What was then done? Why did they not use violence? What did the high priest ask the apostles? Of what did he accuse them? What had the counsel before said about this? Matt. 27 : 25.

II. *Witnessing for Christ*, vs. 29-32.—Who answered for the apostles? What was his reply? How had the rulers rejected Jesus? How had God exalted him? How doth Christ execute the office of a king? How does Jesus give repentance and forgiveness? Who need these gifts? What did the apostles claim to be? How did the Holy Ghost bear witness to these things?

III. *Threatened and Beaten*, vs. 33-41.—How was this reply received by the rulers? Who was Gamaliel? What counsel did he give? What reasons did he give for his advice? How was it received? What did the council then do? Did the apostles obey the rulers? v. 42. In what did they rejoice? Meaning of *for his name*? Why is this a real cause for rejoicing?

PRACTICAL LESSONS LEARNED.

1. God is ever ready to defend and deliver his people.
2. He is wiser and stronger than all our enemies.
3. The Gospel offers mercy and forgiveness even to those who hate and persecute Christ.
4. We must do what God commands, whatever trouble or danger it may bring upon us.
5. We should be witnesses for Christ though we suffer shame for his name.

If any man shall be ashamed of Me and of My words, * * * of him also shall the sin of man be ashamed when He shall in the glory of His Father, with the Holy Angels.