

THE LATEST JOKE.

We's got the very bestest joke
On little sister May;
She's getting pretty old now,
Was fourteen mor.'s to-day.

It was for supper yesterday
'At we had pumpkin pie.
It was so very nice and yellow,
And tasted good, O my!

But after dark I took her out,
And she began to cry;
I couldn't fink what was the matter,
For all she said was "pie."

But when I looked the way she pointed
I laughed till I did cry,
To fink she only saw the moon,
And fought 'twas pumpkin pie.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON IV. [July 25.]

PAUL PREACHING IN ATHENS.

Acts 17. 22-34. Memory verses, 24-27.

GOLDEN TEXT.

God is a Spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth—John 4. 24.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

- Where did Paul go from Berea?
- What kind of a city was Athens?
- Why was Paul sad when he saw its fine temples and statues?
- Where did Paul preach in Athens?
- What kind of people were the Athenians?
- What did they ask Paul to do?
- Where did they take him to preach?
- What was Mars' Hill sometimes called?
- Areopagus.
- What temple was on Mars' Hill?
- What did Paul preach about?
- What did God send Jesus to do?
- By whom will the world be judged?
- What did some do when they heard Paul?
- What did others say?
- Did any believe in Jesus?

DO I BELIEVE—

- That all I have comes from God?
- That I could not live and move without him?
- That he asks me for my heart now?

LESSON V. [Aug. 1.]

PAUL'S MINISTRY IN CORINTH.

Acts 18. 1-11. Memory verses 8-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 3. 11.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

- Why did not Paul stay long in Athens?
- Where did he go from there?
- What kind of a city was Corinth?
- How was it unlike Athens?
- With whom did Paul stay?
- What was their trade?
- How did Paul know this trade? He was taught it when young.
- What was the Jewish custom? To teach trades to their children.
- What did Aquila and his wife learn from Paul?
- Where did Paul preach every Sabbath?
- Why did he stop preaching in the synagogue?
- In whose house did he preach?
- What helpers came from Macedonia?
- What noble family believed?
- How long did Paul stay in Corinth?
- What comforting promise did God give him?

PAUL WAS AN EXAMPLE—

- In loving, faithful service.
- In patient zeal and industry.
- In willingness to obey God.

THE BEST THING TO DO.

O what sober little faces! Even Dolly, sitting in her chair, has put on a doleful look. Is it cloudy and rainy out-of-doors, so that the little ones cannot go out and play? No; the sun is shining as if it had a smile big enough for all the world. What can be the matter with those two little faces?

Let us hear what Pearl is saying to Patty: "I went into the side porch, and I climbed up to smell mamma's 'janum (she meant geranium), and it fell down, and the jar broked all to pieces."

"Oh, my!" exclaimed Patty. "What did mamma say?"

"I didn't tell her. I runned away. I don't want her to know."

"But she will know soon."

"I guess she'll think that the ice-boy did it, he was coming then."

Patty shook her head gravely. "That's naughty, I know, to let some one else be blaused. Pearl, you ought to go and tell mamma; you ought to go this very, very minute."

"But I don't want to," said Pearl. "I'm afraid that mamma will scold."

"Come," coaxed Patty. She took her sister's hand, and drew her along. Faster and faster they went, until both feet were pattering along on a run.

Do you think that her mamma scolded? No; she said: "My little one, I am glad that you came and told me at once. I hope you both will remember that it is a sin to hide a mischief instead of confessing it, and that it is worse sin to let it be laid on some one else. So, you see, that one wrong may be made into two or three wrongs,

but by telling it you do your best to undo the wrong."

They went around to look at the fallen flower.

"See," said their mamma, "it is very little hurt. If it had lain here in the sun, it would have died; but, now that you have told me so soon, I can plant it in another jar."

So in a few minutes the bush was doing as well as ever, and the little ones ran away with faces full of the morning sunshine.

A FISH THAT BUILDS NESTS.

The cleverest nest-builder in all the seas is the little stickleback, a fish which is found in salt and brackish waters all along our northern coast. There are only a few inches of him in all, but he has a fine, bony armour about his clever brain, and more prickles along his back than an artist can draw in the picture.

Mr. Stickleback is the carpenter of the family. He bites off the stems of grasses and water plants, and weaves them together into a snug little ball or barrel, and cements them firmly in place with a fine cement which nature has provided him with. He leaves two doors, front and back, not only for himself and wives and little ones to pass through, but to admit the running water which the eggs seem to need.

The Mrs. Sticklebacks—for this fish has as many wives as a Turk—come and lay their eggs in the neat little nest. The eggs are larger than most fish-eggs, and one hundred is all the nest can accommodate. After they are laid Mr. Stickleback again takes command, and guards the eggs, and provides food for the small fry until they are strong enough to look out for themselves.

SHE WANTED LOVE.

A kind-hearted, sweet-faced woman called one day to see a little maid, whose mother was dead, and who had been placed in the poorhouse. She carried a present with her, but before giving it, she asked, "Now, dear, what would you like best?" The little one looked up wistfully, and then shyly said, "I would like to sit on your knee for a minute, as if I were your little girl."

HE HAS SAID IT TO YOU.

He has said it to you, little darling,
Who spell it in God's word to-day;
You, too, may be sorry for sinning;
You always believe and obey.

And 'twill grieve the dear Saviour in heaven

If one little child shall go wrong—
Be lost from the fold and the shelter,
Shut out from the feast and the song