

DON'T CARE.

I know a wicked, idle snake,
A sly and harmful sprite,
Whose head is soft, whose limbs are weak,
Who yet in wrong has might.

Now, would you know this demon's name
And shun his hurtful snare
In order to defeat his aim?
I speak it loud—"Don't Care."

He finds his way within the home,
And rules the children there,
The parents' hearts are full of gloom
Because of old "Don't Care."

Just take him by the throat, my boy,
With manly strength and fair,
Lest he in time your soul destroy—
This monster rude, "Don't Care."

And you, my lass, my blooming rose,
I whisper soft, "Beware—
There's none among your many foes
Can harm you like 'Don't Care.'"

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS AS RECORDED
IN THE GOSPELS.

LESSON VIII.—AUGUST 19.

THE JUDGE, THE PHARISEE AND THE
PUBLICAN.

Luke 18. 1-14. Memory verses, 13, 14.

GOLDEN TEXT.

God be merciful to me a sinner.—Luke
18. 13.

LESSON STORY.

The stories of these three people are well worth remembering. The first was an unjust judge who did not care for mercy. To him came again and again a poor woman praying for justice. The judge paid no attention to her, but still she kept on pleading. At last, to get rid of her, the judge gave her what she asked.

This parable is to teach us that we should pray and faint not. God is not an unjust judge, but he does not always answer our prayers at once. He wants us to trust him and not grow discouraged.

The next parable tells of a Pharisee and a publican who went to the temple to pray. The Pharisee was very proud, and only pretended to be good. He despised the publican and thanked the Lord that he was not as other men were. The publican's prayer was a humble confession and cry for mercy, "God be merciful to me a sinner," which we may be sure was much more pleasing to God.

"He that confesseth and forsaketh his sin shall find mercy."

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. What is the parable of the judge

about? An unjust judge and a poor woman pleading.

2. What did she do? Kept pleading until he helped her.

3. What is the lesson for us? To pray and faint not.

4. Who is the other parable about. A Pharisee and a publican.

5. What were they doing? Praying.

6. What did the Pharisee say? He thanked God he was not as other men.

7. What did the publican pray? "God be merciful to me a sinner."

LESSON IX.—AUGUST 26.

THE RICH YOUNG RULER.

Mark 10. 17-31. Memory verses, 23, 24.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.—Matt. 16. 24.

LESSON STORY.

This is a sad story, this of the rich young man who came to Jesus asking what he should do to inherit eternal life. Jesus could read the young ruler's heart as he can read all our hearts. He knew the one thing that he lacked. He was a good young man, according to his time, and lived a blameless life. He kept all the commandments, but his one great lack was self-denial. Jesus knew this, so he told him he must sell all and give it to the poor, then take up his cross and follow him. It seemed a great deal to ask, but Jesus saw that as long as he had his wealth he would love it more than God. We all must give up something. It will be hard, but it will be worth doing. Had this young man given up his earthly riches he would have received treasure in heaven. Alas! we have no record that he did. He went away sorrowful, and we are afraid, continued to love the things of this world more than the next.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Who is this lesson about? A rich young ruler.

2. What did he ask Jesus? What he should do to inherit eternal life.

3. What did he tell Jesus? That he had kept all the commandments.

4. What did Jesus tell him? That he lacked one thing—self-denial.

5. What was he told to do? To sell all, give it to the poor, and to take up his cross and follow Jesus.

6. Was he willing to do this? No.

7. Must every one give up something for Jesus' sake? Yes.

A NOBLE LITTLE FELLOW.

The French Huguenots often talked to their children of the glory of holding fast to their faith, and enduring persecution nobly. One day a troop of soldiers came to a village to arrest all the Huguenots.

The father and mother determined to escape. They loaded their one little donkey with vegetables, hiding their little son among the cabbage, and charging him to keep silent no matter what happened. The mother, with a basket of carrots, walked ahead. So they started off. They were soon discovered by the soldiers, one of whom asked their destination. "To market," answered the father. The soldier plunged his sword into the basket, "to see if the cabbage are tender," he said. Not a sound was heard, and with a hearty "bon voyage" the soldiers galloped off. After they had disappeared from sight, the parents hastened to open the basket. They found that their son had been stabbed through the thigh. He was suffering terribly, and yet the brave boy had not uttered a sound.

WE MUST WORK.

It is a terrible thing not to be earnestly at work. You remember what the ant said to the grasshopper. A grasshopper went to an ant, when winter was coming on, and said he wanted help. "But," said the ant, "what have you been doing all the summer?" "Well," the grasshopper said, "I spent my time chirping and jumping about and enjoying myself." "Then be off," said the ant, "for I spent the summer working hard to prepare for winter time."

Dear little workers, here is a stronger lesson still, and from the Book of books, the Bible. Oh, what a warning it is!

"Then shall they answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."

THE WAY TO DO.

"I'm afraid they'll laugh at me!"

It was little Tot's first day in the kindergarten school. Phil was taking her on the way to his school.

"I'm 'fraid they'll laugh at me!" cried little Tot.

"What if they do? You must just laugh back again; that's what we do. When you see them laughin', laugh as hard as you can, and they'll like you for it. People like people that laugh."

Tot was very much afraid that she would cry instead of laugh; but everybody was good, and when she remembered what Phil said she smiled a great deal, and they liked her very much.

Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved, but he that is perverse in his ways shall fall at once.