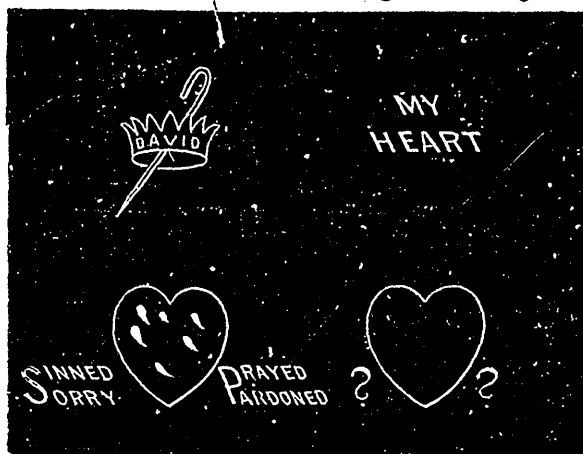


V. **HOW TO TEACH THE LESSON STORY:** We have seen already this Quarter that David "the shepherd king," was an obedient king, a faithful king; that he loved to worship God; that he trusted God; he showed kindness to others and last week we saw that he was a fearless king, because he knew God would win the victory for him. Although David was such good king and, as the Bible tells us, a man after God's own heart, yet he was not like Jesus—a perfect man. As you speak of David's sin, hold up a heart blotted with ink, and deeply impress the thought that sin makes the heart unclean. God opened David's eyes, and he saw that his heart was black with sin, and he was sorry; he cried to God (here teach the golden text) and he was pardoned. Here take the old heart



away and hold up another one, free from blots.

VI. **HOW TO TEACH THE APPLICATION:** Find out from the children their idea of sin. Lead them to see that they have sinned, so that when you hold up the two hearts, the clean and the unclean one, they will not claim, as they usually do, that theirs is the clean heart. As they see the need of pardon, teach them to ask God to give them a clean heart. This is one of the lessons that can be used to bring the children to the point of consciously receiving a new heart.

LESSON VIII—August 23rd, 1896.

Absalom's Rebellion. 2 SAM. 15: 1-12.

I. **GOLDEN TEXT:** "Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Ex. 20: 12.

II. **PREVIEW THOUGHT:** Loyalty.

III. **REVIEW:** What was our golden text last Sunday? What made David's heart unclean? Was he sorry for his sin? What did God do for him when he confessed his sin? What was my prayer last week? (See *Primary Quarterly for Little-Folks*).

IV. **LESSON STORY:** David, the shepherd-king, is dishonoured in our lesson to-day. Our golden text, given many years before by Moses, is: "Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Our story to-day is a sad one. Absalom was a tall, handsome and attractive young man, and was known all over the country for his beautiful hair. He was just the man who would have made a great king, so far as his appearance went; but handsome people are not always good people, and this is the sad part of our story to-day. Instead of honoring his father, he did just the opposite. He prepared him a chariot, and horses, and fifty men, and tried to get the people to make him king instead of his father. To do this he made a plot. He asked his father to allow him to go to Hebron to pay a vow which he had made. This his father, king David, allowed him to do; but instead of paying his vow, Absalom immediately sent men throughout Israel to tell the people at a given signal to proclaim him king in Hebron. The plot was a strong one and many people followed Absalom. We will learn in our lesson story next week what the end of it all was.

V. **APPROACH TO THE LESSON:** Our golden text is the fifth commandment and we will do well, not only to have the children thoroughly memorize it, but to clearly understand its meaning. Perhaps the greatest difficulty will be in making the meaning of the first word "honour" plain. What is it to honour father and mother? An illustration here will help to explain this thought. Tell a story of a little boy who honoured his father by doing what he knew his father would like him to do, instead of pleasing himself. A circus came to town and everybody knows how the music and the grand tent and horses set all the little boys a-going. A little boy was seen looking around the premises with a great deal of curiosity. "Holloc, Johnny," said a man who knew him, "going to the circus?" "No, sir," answered Johnny;