

and gives you His reward; it is just changed over, if you will only accept the exchange!

"I'm glad my blessed Saviour  
Was once a child like me,  
To show how pure and holy  
His little ones might be.  
And if I try to follow  
His footsteps here below,  
He never will forget me,  
Because He loves me so."

### A LITTLE HERO.

**A** LITTLE boy seven years old broke one of his legs, and was brought home on a stretcher. His poor mother, who was at that time ill in bed, tried to get up, but presently sunk back almost fainting. They had to put the poor little fellow to some pain before they could set his leg, for the flesh was torn as well as the bone being broken, and the wound had to be sewed up; but not a single cry did the brave child give. When asked why he had borne his suffering so patiently,—if it was because the pain was not so great,—he answered quietly, "It hurt a good deal; but I would not cry out, because I thought it might make mamma worse to hear me cry."

### NEVER FORGET TO PRAY.

**N**EVER, my child, forget to pray,  
Whate'er the business of the day.  
If happy dreams have blessed thy  
sleep,

If startling tears have made thee weep,  
With holy thoughts begin the day,  
And ne'er, my child, forget to pray.

The time will come when thou wilt miss  
A father's and a mother's kiss,  
And then, my child, perchance thou'lt see  
Some who in prayer ne'er bend the knee;  
From such examples turn away,  
And ne'er, my child, forget to pray.

## LESSON NOTES.

A.D. 27.] LESSON VIII. [Feb. 22.  
GIVING AND PRAYING; or, The Christian Offering.  
Matt. 6. 1-13. Commit to memory verses 3-6.

### THE LESSON STORY.

When Jesus lived on earth there were some men who used to sound a trumpet when they were giving money or food to the poor, so that everybody would know of their good deeds. Jesus told his disciples that when they were giving to those in need they should do it quietly and without show, for God would see their good deeds and reward them. Then there were some men who used to pray on the corners of the streets, where people could see them. Jesus said, "Let your place of prayer be secret and alone, where nobody can disturb you nor hear your words. There pray to God, who sees everywhere, and he will hear and answer you." He told us also how we should pray, not with empty words, but with earnest desires. The prayer which he taught his disciples is called "The Lord's Prayer," which we should all learn and use.

### GOLDEN TEXT.

Thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. Matt. 6. 6.

A.D. 27.] LESSON IX. [Feb. 29.  
OUR FATHER'S CARE; or, The Christian Trust.  
Matt. 6. 24-34. Commit to memory verses 31-34.

### THE LESSON STORY.

In this sermon Jesus told his followers that whatever we choose as the object of our life is a master whom we serve. We may serve God, or we may serve mammon—that is, worldly riches, after which so many are seeking. But we cannot serve both of these at once. So we should seek God with all our hearts, and have no higher aim than to serve him. If we are thus living for God he will care for us, and we may trust fully in him. We need not feel anxious nor troubled about our life, if we have put our trust in God. Just as the birds in the air have no fear for the future, so should we be free from anxious cares, for God who watches over them will care for us, since we are of far greater value. Nor should we feel anxious about house or clothing, for if God clothes the flowers in beauty he will also supply all our needs, if we try to do his will. Let us, then, take the service of God as our first and greatest aim, and we will find all our real wants supplied. Of course, this does not mean that we should do no work, but that while working our best we should trust in God, and not let ourselves feel worried or anxious.

### GOLDEN TEXT.

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 1 Pet. 5. 7.

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