

A SMALL BOY'S PLAINT.

WHEN the blizzard is blowing outside in the street, I have to stay here in the house, I have to sit quiet the whole of the time, as still as a little brown mouse. They won't let me tease my small brother at all, or play with my small sister's things, And mamma's not pleased if I step in her room and set up a store with her rings. And papa gets mad as a crazy March hare when I cut pictures out of his books. I cannot go down to the kitchen to stay, because we've the crossest of cooks. The waitress don't like it if, by some mischance, I upset the cranberry pie. On blizzardly days there isn't a boy so unhappy and tired as I.

The dog, he snaps at me if I pull his tail; and pussy, she scratches my hand. If I put her aboard the piano and play she's head of a musical band. The baby, he cries if I poke at his eyes, and his nurse drives me out of the place, And tells me that all through the rest of the day, she don't want a sight of my face.

I wish it would clear, for I want to go out; I cannot stay quiet and still. I'm so full of moviness all of the time, that sitting down makes me feel ill. I cannot do anything—no, not a thing—I can't say I will or won't; I cannot go out, and I cannot stay in, when there's nothing to do but to don't.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON II. [April 11.]

CONVERSION OF CORNELIUS.

Acts 10. 30-44. Memory verses, 36-38.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.—Acts 10. 43.

OUTLINE.

1. The Centurion, v. 30-33.
2. The Apostle, v. 34-43.
3. The Holy Spirit, v. 44.

THE LESSON STORY.

Peter was a Jew, and the Jews called all men besides themselves Gentiles, and looked upon them as common, unholy people whom the Lord did not love. While he was in Joppa, at Simon's house, God sent a vision to show Peter that he loved all men alike. Read about it in Acts 10. 1-16. Two days before he had sent a vision to Cornelius, a Gentile who lived in Caesarea, a city fifty miles from Joppa. In this vision an angel appeared

and told Cornelius to send men to Joppa and bring Peter to teach him what he ought to do. Cornelius obeyed and sent three men to bring Peter to his house. Peter said he would go, and six of his friends went with him. So there were ten in the party, seven Jews and three Gentiles.

Cornelius was expecting them, and had his relatives and dear friends at his house to see and hear Peter. He told Peter about his vision, and asked him to tell all that God had sent him to say. Then Peter preached Jesus to these Gentiles, and said that whoever believed in him should have the forgiveness of sins. When he said this the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles and they began to praise God aloud. Then they were baptized, and since then Gentiles have been baptized when they became believers in Jesus.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

- Mon.* Read the story of Cornelius's vision. Acts 10. 1-6.
- Tues.* Read about Peter's vision. Acts 10. 9-16.
- Wed.* What lesson did Peter learn from this? Verse 28.
- Thur.* Learn that God hears all true prayer. Dan. 10. 12.
- Fri.* Find how we should listen and speak for God. Deut. 5. 27.
- Sat.* Read the lesson again. Acts 10. 30-44.
- Sun.* Learn the Golden Text.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

What did the Jews think about Gentiles? Who are Gentiles? All who are not Jews. How did God teach Peter that he loved all alike? To whom had he sent a vision just before? Who was Cornelius? What kind of a man was he? What did he want to learn? More about God. What does God do when he sees this desire in a heart? Sends help and teaching. Where did Peter go? Who went with him? What shows that Cornelius was not selfish? What great truth did Peter declare? Verse 34. What joyful message did he bring? Golden Text. What fell upon the Gentiles then? What did they do? What was done to show that they belonged to God's family? They were baptized.

GOOD NEWS FOR ALL.

God loves everybody.
God wants sinners to come to him.
God wants us to tell the good news to all.

LESSON III. [April 18.]

GENTILES CONVERTED AT ANTIOCH.

Acts 11. 19-26. Memory verses, 21-24.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.—Acts 11. 18.

OUTLINE.

1. The Church Growing, v. 19-21.
2. The Church Organized, v. 22-26.

THE LESSON STORY.

When Peter went back to Jerusalem the apostles found fault with him for going to Gentiles and eating with them. But Peter told them all the story of the vision, and how the Holy Ghost came upon the Gentiles, and they were glad, for they saw that God had sent salvation to these also.

You remember that after Stephen's death there was great persecution of the believers, and many went away from Jerusalem and preached in other places. The heathen city of Antioch was one of these places. Many believed in Jesus, and the Church in Jerusalem sent a good man there, named Barnabas, to preach and to teach.

But so many became believers that Barnabas went to Tarsus and asked Saul to go to Antioch and help him.

Saul went willingly, and for a whole year they both preached Jesus in this beautiful old city. It was here that believers were first called Christians, a name they have kept ever since.

Saul and Barnabas only went once to Jerusalem during that year. The Christians at Antioch sent them to carry money to poor Christians in Jerusalem, because food was very scarce and dear. This showed that love for Jesus had made them love other people.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

- Mon.* Read the lesson verses. Acts 11. 19-26.
- Tues.* Learn what the apostles at Jerusalem learned. Golden Text.
- Wed.* Learn a word of warning. Heb. 2. 3.
- Thur.* Find what command Barnabas and Saul obeyed. Matt. 28. 19.
- Fri.* Find out all you can about Antioch.
- Sat.* Find a proof of Barnabas' friendship for Saul. Acts 9. 26, 27.
- Sun.* Learn why we should help men believe. James 5. 20.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

Who found fault with Peter when he went to Jerusalem? What for? Why did they think he had done wrong? Because he had broken the law. What is higher than Jewish law? God's law. What followed Stephen's death? What did many believers do? How did the persecution do good? It was the means of spreading the good news. What was one of the cities visited? Who was sent there to teach and preach? Whom did he get to come and help him? How long did they both stay in Antioch? What was the result of their teachings? What name was given to believers in Antioch?

LEARN FROM THE LESSON—

To obey God rather than man.
To look for good to come out of evil.
To work earnestly and faithfully for God.

A GENUINE cent is worth more than a counterfeit dollar.