

## LESSON II.

GOD MAKING MAN, Gen. 1: 26-30.

For Golden Text see Lesson I.

As motherhood is the cardinal point of Lesson I, so fatherhood is the central thought of Lesson II. Thus are established God's relations toward us in His great heart of love, in which parental love finds its highest and purest expression and example.

APPROACH—Fathers can do a good many things that boys and girls cannot do. They are older and wiser, stronger and more unselfish. Did your father ever take out his knife and from a piece of wood in a little while make you a fine toy? Did you ever have a top made from a spool and a stick, or a wagon made from an old box and spools, or a play-house with "sure-enough" windows and doors that father made? Perhaps your father is a carpenter as Jesus' earthly father was, and can build houses and fences and ships. Someone's father must have made our chairs and tables and beds and book-cases. Fathers are very helpful people to have in this world. Don't you think it is kind of father, when he has finished a hard day's work, to sit down and make things for you? What should we do without father, who does so much to make us happy?

LESSON STORY—Long ago our Father in heaven made many wonderful things. He made the earth, moon, stars, sun, seas, rivers and lakes, but the most wonderful thing of all He made on the sixth day. Looking about at all He had made, He said, "These things are good in their places, the moon, stars and sun in the sky, to shine by night and by day, the fishes to live in the sea, the birds to fly in the air, the animals to walk on the earth, the flowers to make the earth beautiful, and the fruit and vegetables for food. But there must be some one to enjoy all these things. My hands have made, and to be like a father to everything on earth."

Then God, our heavenly Father, made the first man and loved him so much that He made him after His own image. Then, because He saw it would make man happier, He made the first woman also, that she might live with the man in the beautiful garden of Eden.

God blessed them and gave them rule over the fishes, birds, animals, trees, fruits, vegetables and flowers.

When He had finished this work our Father rested. Ever since then the people who live on this earth have been made after the image and likeness of God.

THINK OF THIS—If we have been made in the image and likeness of God, we ought to wish to be like Him in our lives. Every boy wants to be like his own dear father and follow his footsteps. This helps a boy to be more like our Father in heaven. We can see this true image of God in Jesus, God's dear Son. He was perfectly like the Father in heaven, and we should seek to be perfectly like Him. When we forget to obey, or to be cheerful or unselfish, are we being like the image God made us in, like Jesus, God's only Son?

## LESSON III.

GOD PREPARING THE FIRST HOME, Genesis 2: 4-9, 15.

Golden Text: *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.* Genesis 1: 1.

We continue in the next four lessons an account of God's love for us in the thoughtful care with which He left no detail unnoticed that would make for man's comfort and peace. This certainly should strengthen our own love for Him and awake in the children a desire to give back something to God—what little children can do in little children's ways—in return for what God has done for them.

CENTRAL TRUTH—Small things are worthy of careful doing; thus large things become possible.

POINT OF DEPARTURE—A child's idea of a garden and his knowledge of one.

SPIRITUAL RESULTS DESIRED—A more conscientious performance of duty in the many little things that fall to a child's lot, a purpose to not shirk little tasks. Honest doing makes honest living. Honest living pleases God.

APPROACH—Did you ever go out into the garden with father? It may be you have a garden of your own? What grows in it? Flowers in some, vegetables in others. Did your father or you do anything before the flowers grew or the vegetables sprouted? Planted the seeds. Yes, we did our part;