

GOD'S BEAUTIFUL WORLD.

We are little children,
Full of life and play;
Singing, ever singing,
Songs so bright and gay.
Should we not be happy
In a world so fair?
Love and joy and kindness
Find we everywhere.

Birdies in the treetops
Sing us songs so sweet;
Blossoms in the meadows
Stay our straying feet;
Winter clouds and snowstorms,
Summer sunshine bright,
Bring us sweetest pleasures,
Fill us with delight.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS.

LESSON V. [Feb. 1.]

PAUL AT ATHENS.

Acts 17. 22-34. Memorize verses 28, 29.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He preached unto them Jesus and the resurrection.—Acts 17. 18.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Where did Paul go from Berea? What was Athens called? The most beautiful city in the world. What made it beautiful? Its marble temples, statues, and altars. Why did these make Paul sad? Because they were for idol worship. What kind of people were the Athenians? What did they ask Paul to do? Where did he preach? What was Mars' hill sometimes called? Areopagus. What did Paul talk about? What did he say that Jesus came for? What did he say of all nations of men? What did he quote from one of their poets? Who did he say would judge the world? What turned the Athenians against Paul? Did any believe in Jesus? What were their names?

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read about Paul in Athens. Acts 17. 16-21.

Tues. Read the lesson verses. Acts 17. 22-34.

Wed. Learn what ministers should preach. Golden Text.

Thur. Learn how we may hope to understand God. Matt. 11. 27.

Fri. Learn a great truth about God. 1 Cor. 8. 6.

Sat. Find what Jesus said about repentance. Luke 24. 44-47.

Sun. Read of one who waited for a better time. Acts 24. 25.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned—

1. That there is one God.
2. That our only life is from him.
3. That he says, "Give me thy heart."

LESSON VI. [Feb. 8.]

THE CHURCH AT CORINTH FOUNDED.

Acts 18. 1-11. Memorize verses 9-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 3. 11.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Why did Paul leave Athens? Where did he go from there? What kind of a city was Corinth? A gay city. With whom did Paul stay? What did they do? How did Paul know how to work with them? He was taught when young. What do the Jews always do? Teach their children a useful trade. What did Aquila and his wife learn from Paul? The gospel of Jesus. Where did Paul preach each Sabbath? Why did he stop preaching there? Where did he afterward preach? Who came from Macedonia? What Jewish family believed? How long did Paul stay in Corinth? What did the Lord say to him?

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read about Paul in Corinth. Acts 18. 1-11.

Tues. Learn how he worked for his daily bread. 2 Thess. 3. 7-10.

Wed. Find how Paul treated his opposers. 2 Tim. 2. 25.

Thur. Learn the foundation of Paul's faith. Golden Text.

Fri. Learn the danger of refusing to hear truth. Ezek. 33. 4.

Sat. Find why we need not fear to speak for God. Jer. 1. 6-9.

Sun. Read the eleventh psalm.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned—

1. That it is noble to earn one's daily bread.
2. That it is brave to own Christ among his enemies.
3. That it is best to stay where God puts us.

A SMART DOG.

One afternoon a group of little children were playing on a pier which ran far out into the water of a deep lake.

While engaged in a game of romps, one of the boys stepped back and fell into the water. His little friends cried loudly for assistance, but no one came.

As he was sinking for the third time, however, a noble Newfoundland dog rushed down the pier, jumped into the water, and pulled the little boy out.

The children now divided into two bands. One was to take the rescued child to his mother and father; the other was to lead the dog to a baker's shop, where he was fed on cakes until he could eat no more.

The next afternoon the same group of children were playing on the pier. The brave dog came trotting down to them with many friendly wags and nods.

The children stroked and petted him, but offered no refreshments. "Why do they give me nothing to eat?" the dog asked himself. "Ah, I see! it is because I have pulled no little child out of the water to-day."

Upon this he went up to a little girl who stood near the edge of the pier, and gave her a gentle push into the water. Then he sprang in after her and gravely brought her to the shore. Of course he was treated to cakes again.

But on the next day the children were forbidden to play on the pier, so he had no further chance to earn his supper by rescuing a child from the water. Was he not a smart dog?

A LITTLE DISCIPLE.

I would follow Jesus,
And I know I may;
For I hear him calling,
And he shows the way.

I would follow Jesus,
That my tongue may speak
Words which carry comfort
To the sad and weak.

I would follow Jesus,
As a child may do;
Be to all my comrades
Kind and pure and true.

—Selected.

IT'S VERY HARD.

"It's very hard to have nothing to eat but porridge, when others have every sort of dainty," murmured Dick, as he sat with his wooden bowl before him. "It's very hard to have to trudge along through the snow, while others roll about in their coaches."

"It's a great blessing," said his grandmother, as she sat at her knitting. "to have food when so many are hungry; it's a great blessing to have a roof over one's head when so many are homeless; it's a great blessing to have sight and hearing and strength for daily labour when so many are blind, deaf, or suffering."

"Why, grandmother, you seem to think that nothing is hard," said the boy, still in grumbling tone.

"No, Dick; there is one thing that I do think very hard."

"What's that?" cried Dick, who thought that at last his grandmother had found some cause for complaint.

"Why, boy, I think that heart is very hard that is not thankful for so many blessings."

If you want to save souls, take the lead toward heaven and immortal glory yourself. You can pull more than you can push.