

## EASTER MORNING.

Waken, little people,  
Waken, children dear!  
Listen, from the steeple  
Bells are pealing clear;  
"We ring  
For the birthday of the spring;  
We bring  
The happy Easter Day."

Bells of silver lilies  
Softly stir to-day;  
Though their chime so still is,  
Yet they seem to say,  
"We ring  
Only perfume-music as we swing;  
We spring  
On the happy Easter Day."

## LESSON NOTES.

## SECOND QUARTER.

WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS AS RECORDED  
IN THE GOSPELS.

## LESSON V.—APRIL 29.

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER.

Mark 4. 1-20. Memory verse, 20.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

The seed is the Word of God.—Luke 8-11.

## LESSON STORY.

This is a very beautiful and true parable. Let every little child try to understand and learn it.

A sower went out to sow. He carried his seed in a big bag tied on like an apron.

As he would take a handful from the bag some of the seeds fell by the wayside and the birds quickly ate them up. Some fell on stony ground where there was no rich earth. It sprang up quickly but soon withered. Other tiny seeds fell among thorns, but when it tried to grow was choked by the thorns. But some fell on good ground and brought forth fruit, some thirty, some sixty and some an hundred fold.

Jesus explained the parable thus:

The sower soweth the word of God. The wayside ones are those who let Satan steal the seed from their hearts.

The stony ones are those who receive the word gladly, but when trouble comes they forget the promises and do not trust in God. The same way with the thorny ones. They let the things of this world choke out the things of the Spirit.

The good ground is that of hearts which receive the word of God and bring forth fruit.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. What is a parable? A story with a lesson in it.

2. Is a parable hard to understand? No, they are always simple.

3. Who is the sower? Any one who tells us of Jesus.

4. What is the seed? The Word of God.

5. Where is the seed sown? In our hearts.

6. Is it our fault if our hearts are stony or thorny? Yes.

7. How can we make them? Like rich soil that will yield fruit.

## LESSON VI.—MAY 6.

THE PARABLE OF THE TARES.

Matt. 13. 24-30, 36-43. Memory verse, 30.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.—Gal. 6. 7.

## LESSON STORY.

The kingdom of Heaven, Jesus said, is like unto a man who sowed good seed in his field. But in the night, when no one was watching, an evil person came and sowed tares. When the good seed began to put forth little shoots the tares did also. The servants were told not to touch the field lest they tore up good grain with the tares. When harvest time came the two would be separated.

Jesus said this parable meant that the sower of the good seed is the Son of man. The field is the world, the harvest is the end of the world. The sower of tares is the devil, and the reapers are the angels. The tares or those who followed the evil one shall be burned. But those who were good shall be taken to be for ever with their Heavenly Father, in a glorious kingdom of light and joy.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. What is the Kingdom of Heaven likened to? A man who sowed good seed in his field.

2. Who is the sower? The Son of man.

3. Who soweth the tares? The evil one.

4. What is the field? The world.

5. Who are the good seed? Children of Righteousness.

6. Who are the tares? Children of wickedness.

7. What is the harvest? The end of the world.

8. Who are the reapers? The angels.

## WHO FOUND THE RIBBONS.

"Shut your eyes and hold your ears," said Baby Bess; "we're going to play hunt the handkerchief, only I can't find my handkerchief, and I'll hide my ribbon instead."

So she tiptoed across the room and laid the ribbon on the window-sill behind the flower-pots.

Edna and Harold had a long hunt for it, and when they gave it up Baby Bess

herself could not find it. There was the window-sill, there were the flower-pots, but no ribbon could be seen. Where had it gone?

Now it happened that morning that Mrs. Oriole was building her nest, and when she spied the baby's ribbon in the open window she thought: "Ah, that is just what I want for my children's bed."

So she took it in her bill and carried it away with her.

When autumn came and the leaves fell, the children saw an empty oriole's nest in the elm-tree, and Harold climbed up and brought it down.

Then what do you think he found in it? How the children all laughed! For there in the bottom of the nest was Baby Bess' blue ribbon, just where Mrs. Oriole wove it in to make a soft bed for her children.

## KEEPING AT IT.

"How do you expect to get through that snowdrift?" asked a passer-by of a little boy who was shovelling a path through a large snowbank in front of his house.

"By keeping at it," answered the boy, who had only a small shovel with which to work.

That was the right spirit with which to succeed. The boy who keeps at it will dig out a path through the deepest snowdrift, and if he shows the same spirit of perseverance in meeting all other obstacles, he will become a successful man when he grows up.

## OBEDIENCE TO PARENTS.

A boy left his home in the country and came to live in the city. His companions asked him one day to go with them to a place of amusement, to which his parents had told him not to go; so he replied: "No; I will not go."

"Oh," said one of his companions, "we see you are afraid of your mother."

"Yes," said the brave boy, "I am afraid of grieving my good, kind mother by doing what I know she would not like."

## WHAT THE FLOWERS SAY.

BY SUSAN COOLIDGE.

The red rose says, "Be sweet."

And the lily bids, "Be pure."

The hardy, brave chrysanthemum.

"Be patient and endure."

The violet whispers, "Give,

Nor grudge, nor count the cost,"

The woodbine, "Keep on blossoming

In spite of chill and frost."

And so each gracious flower

Has each a several word,

Which, read together, maketh up

The message of the Lord.