

MY HYMN THIS WEEK.

—O—
 I lay my griefs on Jesus,
 My burdens and my cares;
 He from them all releases;
 He all my sorrow shares.

MY VERSES THIS WEEK.

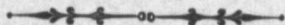
—O—
 MONDAY—Ezek. 33 : 11.
 TUESDAY—Ps. 7 : 16.
 WEDNESDAY—Ps. 9 : 9.
 THURSDAY—Ps. 7 : 11.
 FRIDAY—Jer. 15 : 21.
 SATURDAY—Ps. 38 : 18.
 SABBATH—Ps. 1 : 6.

MY LESSON STORY THIS WEEK.



DAVID, the shepherd-king, is in great grief in our lesson story to-day. Though Absalom does not seem to have loved his father very much, his father loved him, as we shall see. The wicked son went on plotting against him. With his followers he went back to Jerusalem. David, seeing that his life and the lives of his friends were in danger, fled from Jerusalem, and with his family and some of his soldiers, went across the river Jordan to Mahanaim. Absalom and his men followed him, and a great battle was fought between the two armies. The people would not allow David himself to go into the battle, and he remained sitting at the gate of the city.

Although Absalom had been treating his father so badly and trying to take away his kingdom, still David loved him, and loved him so much that he said to the leaders of the army, "Deal gently with the young man, even with Absalom, for my sake." All the day he sat waiting for news. Bye-and-bye the watchman on the tower saw a man running with news, then another following him. When they arrived they fell down before the king and told him that his army had won the battle; but David seemed to be more anxious to hear about Absalom than the battle, and asked both of the messengers about him. The last messenger told him that Absalom was dead! Then the king went up to the chamber over the gate and wept: and as he went he said, "O my son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!"



MY QUESTIONS THIS WEEK.

1. Where did Absalom and his followers go?
2. Where did David and his soldiers go?
3. Which army won the battle?
4. What made David so sorrowful?

MY PRAYER THIS WEEK.

Oh God! Keep me from sin, which always leads to trouble.