

Nobody Knows but Mother.

Nobody knows of the work it takes
To keep the home together;
Nobody knows of the steps it takes,
Nobody knows—but mother.

Nobody listens to childish woes,
Which kisses only smother;
Nobody's pained by naughty blows,
Nobody—only mother.

Nobody knows of the sleepless care
Bestowed on baby brother;
Nobody knows of the tender prayer,
Nobody—only mother.

Nobody knows of the lessons taught
Of loving one another;
Nobody knows of the patience sought,
Nobody—only mother.

Nobody knows of the anxious fears,
Lest darling may not weather
The storm of life in after years
Nobody knows—but mother.

Nobody kneels at the throne above
To thank the Heavenly Father
For the sweetest gift—a mother's love;
Nobody can—but mother.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN LUKE.

A.D. 30] **LESSON III.** [July 20
TAKING UP THE CROSS.
Luke 14. 25-35. Memory verses, 27-30.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whoever doth not bear his cross, and
come after me, cannot be my disciple.—
Luke 14. 27.

TIME.—30 A.D.

PLACE.—Perea (?)

CONNECTING LINKS.—These words were
evidently spoken on Jesus' journey south-
ward to one of the great Jewish feasts,
when multitudes of Galilean pilgrims ac-
companied him.

EXPLANATIONS.

Great multitudes—They may have been
travelling in the same way to Jerusalem,
and surging backward and forward around
Jesus, the great central figure. *If any man
come*—The first months of Jesus' public
ministry were months of invitation and
proclamation; but from the day when he
told the parable of the sower he began to
sift his followers. His teachings thence-
forth have an undercurrent which tends to
carry away from him mere curiosity-seekers
and shallow followers; while those who
were at heart his disciples are drawn closer
in intense spiritual communion. He was
testing them, and this lesson can only be
clearly understood with this thought in
mind. *Hate not*—That is, reject not.
Whoever follows Jesus must choose Jesus,
and everything that stands in the way must
be rejected. But Jesus never taught the
doctrine of hate. The true Christian loves
his friends better than others. *Bear his
cross*—In modern phrase the same thought
would be given by saying whoever does not
hammer together his own gallows cannot
follow me. Jesus' intention is to proclaim
that death stared him in the face, and no
man could be his follower who could not
face death. *Build a tower*—Builders get
estimates. *Going to make war*—Govern-
ments investigate the state of their armies.
So Christians should count the cost, and if
they are not prepared to take all the risks
better never begin the new life. *If the salt
hath lost its savour*—A savourless white
powder named salt would be of no use. It
is the saline principle that we buy and sell
in commerce. So it is not the name of a
Christian that we should seek, but the saving
principle of a holy life. *He that hath ears
to hear*—Jesus frequently made this remark.
Those who listened to him were very much
like most hearers of to-day. Use your
ears!

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *Bearing the Cross*, vers. 25-27.
Who followed Jesus?
What strange demand did he make of his
disciples?

How is this demand elsewhere explained?
Matt. 10. 37.
What did he say about cross-bearing?
(Golden Text.)
How constantly must the cross be borne?
Mark 9. 23.

2. *Counting the Cost*, vers. 28-35.

What question is asked about counting
the cost?
What reason is given for so doing?
What would a wise king do before going
to war?
If not so strong as his enemy, what would
he do?
What must every one do who would be a
disciple?
What reward is promised to one who for-
sakes all? Matt. 19. 29.
Who are the salt of the earth? Matt.
5. 13.
What is asked about poor salt?
For what only is it fit?
Who are exhorted to hear this teaching?
What ought we to do besides hearing?
Jas. 1. 22.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What does the Lord say about the
man who comes not after him? "He cannot
be my disciple." 2. What condition does
he make? (Golden Text.) 3. What does a
man do before building? "Counts the cost."
4. What does a king do before declaring
war? "Tests his strength." 5. What must
we do in coming to Jesus? "Forsake all."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The Christian
warfare.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

3. What is meant by salvation?
It is the deliverance of the soul from sin
and its recovery to spiritual life in God.
And thou shalt call his name Jesus; for
it is He that shall save His people from
their sins.—Matt. 1. 21.

A.D. 29 or 30] **LESSON IV.** [July 27

LOST AND FOUND.

Luke 15. 1-10. Memory verses, 4-7.

GOLDEN TEXT.

There is joy in the presence of the angels
of God over one sinner that repenteth.—
Luke 15. 10.

TIME.—29 or 30 A.D.

PLACE.—Perea, probably.

CONNECTING LINKS.—The surroundings of
this parable are uncertain, but the Lord
had already begun his last journey to
Jerusalem.

EXPLANATIONS.

Draw near unto him—Their sense of vile-
ness had at first kept them away. *Mur-
mured*—Pharisees "sought not the lost,"
and could not understand the One who did.
Eateth with them—Puts himself on their
level. Their very touch was supposed to
defile a Pharisee. Emphatically Jesus came
"not to call the righteous." *He spake*—
He does not deny the charge they make,
but justifies his course. *This parable*—No
mere statement could have taught as much
as the three parables that followed, two of
which are in this lesson. *Leave the ninety
and nine*—Not wholly uncared for, how-
ever; under-shepherds were always em-
ployed. Remember that the background of
this little story was much more familiar to
Jesus' hearers than to us. *Wilderness*—Un-
cultivated, grassy plains. *Go after*—If he
had loved less, he might have sent a ser-
vant. *Layeth it on his shoulders*—He does
not scold or punish, but soothes and helps.
Rejoicing—This gives a wonderful glimpse
of the infinite love of God. *Just persons,
which need no repentance*—There are none
such, but many were, and many still are,
self-righteous, and over such neither the
Good Shepherd nor the "angels of God"
can rejoice. *Pieces of silver*—Little coins,
with the image of an owl or a tortoise—
worth eighteen cents a piece, but with much
greater purchasing power in those days.
Women wore them as a sort of mental
fringe upon the forehead. We are God's
coins. *Light . . . sweep*—"Patience and
diligence and minute observation" are as
greatly needed in the salvation of souls as
are the more aggressive traits of the average
revival. *I had lost*—Through her own care-
lessness. The sheep had wandered away,
but it was through negligence that the coin
rolled into the dark corner. The Church is
never altogether without blame when souls
are lost from its holy precincts.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *Lost Men Found*, vers. 1, 2.
Who sought Jesus to listen to his teach-
ing?
Who found fault with Jesus because of
this?
What did these men say?
What similar charge was made against
St Peter? See Acts 11. 3.
Whom did Jesus come to seek? Chap
19. 10.
2. *Lost Sheep Found*, vers. 3-7.
What parable did Jesus speak to the
fault-finders?
What did he say about seeking a lost
sheep?
What about the joy of finding it?
Who would be called to share the joy?
Whom does Peter liken to lost sheep?
1 Peter 2. 25.
What finding of the lost causes joy in
heaven?
Over whom is there less rejoicing?
Whom did Jesus not come to seek?
Chap. 5. 32.
3. *Lost Money Found*, vers. 8-10.
What treasure had the woman of the
parable
How much did she lose?
What did she do when she learned of her
loss?
What when she had found the lost piece?
Where also is there joy over finding the
lost? (Golden Text.)

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What complaint against Jesus was
made by the scribes and Pharisees? "This
man receiveth sinners." 2. What two para-
bles did he tell in justification of his
course? "The lost sheep and the lost coin."
3. What did the Good Shepherd do? "Went
after that which was lost." 4. What did
the woman do when she lost her piece of
silver? "Sought diligently till she found
it." 5. What did they both do when they
found that which was lost? "Rejoiced with
their friends." 6. Repeat the Golden Text:
"There is joy," etc.

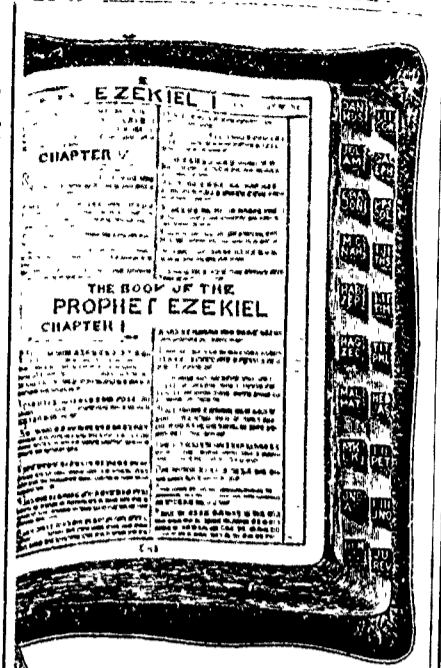
DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—God's love to
sinners

CATECHISM QUESTION.

4. What are the chief benefits included
in salvation?
They are the forgiveness of sins, regenera-
tion or the new birth, and sanctification.
What is the forgiveness or remission of
sins?
The penitent sinner who believes in Christ
is freely pardoned, his punishment being re-
mitted or not inflicted.
There is therefore now no condemnation
to them that are in Christ Jesus.—Rom. 8. 1.

Tangle-Thread.

If you find that you like to have
your way a good deal better than you
like to have your mother to have hers;
if you pout and cry when you can not
do as you please; if you never own
that you are in the wrong and are
sorry for it—never, in short, try with
all your might to be docile and gentle
—then your name is Tangle-Thread,
and you may depend you cost your
mother many sorrowful hours and
many tears. The best thing for you
to do is to go away by yourself and to
pray to Jesus to make you see how
naughty you are and to make you
humble and sorry. Then the old
and soiled thread that can be seen by
your mother in your life will disappear,
and in its place there will come first a
silver, and by-and-by, with time and
patience and God's loving help, a
sparkling and beautiful golden one.
And do you know of anything in this
world you would rather be than some-
body's Golden Thread, and especially
the Golden Thread of your dear
mamma, who has loved you so many
years, and who longs to see you gentle
and docile, like him of whom it was
said, "Behold the Lamb of God?"



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