

WE ARE COMING.

We are coming, we are coming,
A brave little band,
On the safe side of temperance
We'll now take our stand.

We don't like tobacco,
Do you know what we think?
That the boys who will use it,
Are quite sure to drink.

We can't be too little
To learn to do right,
And always remember
We live in God's sight.

GOD SEES US.

A MAN once went out to steal some corn. He took his son, a bright little fellow of eight years, along with him. When they came to the edge of the cornfield, from which the father expected to steal the corn, he looked up and down the road, to make very sure that there was no one to witness the intended theft. He could see no one, and, thinking the coast clear, was about to go into the field, when the little fellow caught him by the arm and, looking up into his face said, "Papa, you forgot to look one way."

"Which way?" asked the father.

"You forgot to look up."

The words struck conviction to the man's hardened heart and he returned home, without stealing the corn.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

B.C. 444.] LESSON X. [March. 7.

READING THE LAW.

Neh. 8. 1-12.

Commit to memory verses 8-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.

So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading. Neh. 8. 8.

OUTLINE.

1. A Great Congregation, v. 1.
2. A Bible Reading, v. 2-8.
3. A Day of Gladness, v. 9-12.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Where did the people gather together? In the street before the water gate.

What was the water gate? The gate through which water was carried into the temple.

Why did they come together? To celebrate the feast of the trumpets.

What did they ask of Ezra? To hear the law of Moses.

What did he do? He brought the book of the law and read it.

How long was he reading it? From daylight till noon.

Where did Ezra stand while reading? Upon a pulpit of wood.

Who were with him? Priests and Levites, who explained the law to the people.

How did the people listen? With reverence and close attention.

How was the law read and explained? Distinctly and clearly, so that every one understood it.

Why did the people weep? Because of their sins.

What had sin brought upon them? Sorrow and punishment.

What did Ezra and the priests tell the people? "Weep not, the day is holy unto the Lord."

What should they do? Keep the feast with joy.

For what reason? Because God had forgiven them.

What is the joy of the Lord? The happiness that comes from doing his will.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

If you would like to know the very words God used when he told Moses to read the law mentioned in the GOLDEN TEXT you can find them in Deut. 31. 10-13. Notice what he said about the children. God wants you to listen very attentively whenever his word is read or taught to you, and to study it for yourselves. If you do this you will find it to be a lamp lighting the path that leads to heaven.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The authority of the word.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Who were Ananias and Sapphira? A man and his wife who were struck dead for lying unto the Holy Spirit.

Who was St. Stephen? The first who was put to death for Christ's sake.

B.C. 174.] LESSON XI. [March. 14.

ESTHER'S PETITION.

Esther 4. 10-17, & 5. 1-3. Commit to memory vs. 1-3.

GOLDEN TEXT.

So will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish. Esther 4. 16.

OUTLINE.

1. The Message of Faith, v. 10-14.
2. The Resolve of Faith, v. 15-17.
3. The Power of Faith, v. 1-3.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What cruel law was made by the king of

Persia? That all the Jews in his kingdom be put to death on a certain day.

What did the Jews do when they heard it? They mourned in sackcloth and ashes.

Who was the king's queen? Esther, Jewess.

Did the king know she was a Jewess? No.

Who sent a copy of the king's law to Esther? Mordecai, her cousin.

What did he want her to do? To ask the king to spare the lives of her people.

What was Esther's reply? That she might lose her own life in so doing.

Why did she thus reply? Because every one that entered into the presence of the king without his permission was put to death.

Who only were spared? Those to whom the king held out his golden sceptre.

Of what was this a sign? Of his mercy.

What word did Mordecai send the queen? That she might be killed as one of the Jews.

What request did Esther make of him? To ask all the Jews to fast for her three days.

What did she promise? To see the king. (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

How did the king receive Esther? With favour.

What did he promise? To grant any request she might ask of him.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

There never need be one bit of fear in your hearts to go to your King and ask him for whatever you want.

Queen Esther was willing to lay down her life for her people. (See the GOLDEN TEXT.) Who gave his precious life for you?

"You may be the smallest of those who love him,

The weakest of those who pray,
But if you come as he has bidden
He never will say you, Nay."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Faith.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Who was St. Paul? The apostle who was first a persecutor, but afterwards the great preacher of the gospel to the Gentiles.

Who was Dorcas? A good woman who made clothes for the poor, and who was raised from death.

To be a real gentleman, not a sham, you must be gentle and courteous and kind to the folks at home. Coarseness and rudeness are as bad at home as "before company."